A GENUINE

HISTORY

OF THE

Lives and Actions

OF THE

Moſt notorious *IRISH* HIGHWAYMEN, TORIES and RAPPAREES, from *Redmond O Hanlon*, the famous Gentleman-robber, to *Cahier na Gappul*, the great Horſe-catcher, who was executed at *Maryborough* in *Auguſt* 1735.

To which is added,

The Gold-finder:

Or, the Hiſtory of *Manus Maconiel*, who under the Appearance of a ſtupid, ignorant Country Fellow, (on the Bog of *Allen*, by the Help of his Man *Andrew*) play'd the moſt notorious Cheats and remarkable Tricks on the People of *Ireland* that were ever known.

The THIRD EDITION, corrected.

By *J. COSGRAV.*

Behold-----here's Truth in ev'ry Page expreſs'd;
O Darby's all a Sham, in Fiction dreſs'd;
Save what from hence his treach'rous Maſter ſtole,
To ſerve a knaviſh Turn, and act the Fool.

Dublin, printed by *C. W.* near the *Globe* in *Meath-ſtreet*, and ſold by the Booksellers. 1747.

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SEP

The PREFACE.

SO *great a prevalence has Cuſtom, that to ſee an* Engliſh *Book without a Preface, is as ſtrange a Sight as a Bull without Horns, the Weapons of his Defence. If this little Hiſtory of the* Iriſh *Robbers has any Occaſion for a Preface, it can only be to obviate one Objection that may be made by Cavillers againſt it, viz.* Rogues merit no Commendation, and therefore Men ought to be cautious of introducing their Actions in Hiſtory, leſt it ſhould be an Encouragement to others to follow their Example. *But I can aſſure the Reader, that my Intention is quite different: I have wrote with no other Deſign than to diſcourage young Men from falling into ſuch Company as may lead them into a ſhameful Way of living, which often brings them to an ill End, and leaves a Reproach upon their Family, who may be innocent. We may obſerve the great* Redmond O Hanlon, *tho' he lived a merry Life, yet it was but ſhort, and often attended with ſuch Dangers and Fear, that he could have but*

little Satisfaction; and at length he became such an Odium, that one of his own Relations, for the Lucre of a Reward dispatched him out of the World as he lay asleep: How, safely, then can an outlawed Rogue leave his Life in the Power of another, when induced, not only by the Promise of a Reward, but for the sake of Pardon, to give Information? And if a Man has Occasion to distrust his own Comrades, with how much Dissatisfaction must he live? 'Tis true he may riot for a while: but let him take Care, lest *(according the Psalmist)* he be cut off in his Wickedness, and die in his Sins

I hope the following History may also be of Service to honest Men of all Professions, who may happen to have Dealings, tho' at unawares, with such kind of Cattle as are here treated of. By making ourselves acquainted with their Artifices and ways of Management, we may be the better able to know how to discover their Wiles, and break their Measures. When a Man is fore-warned, if he does not fore-arm himself, I believe all Men will think him blame-worthy: I am sure this is my Opinion, who am a Well-wisher to all Men.

J. C.

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Moſt notorious *IRISH* ROGUES and RAPPAREES.

THO' 'tis very probable that *Ireland* has produced a great many Barbarians and Murderers from the Beginning; yet as the ancient Hiſtories of that Nation are ſo very fabulous, that little or no Credit can be given to them, we ſhall begin with the Lives of ſuch, the Veracity whereof cannot be called in queſtion: And, as among the *Iriſh* Robbers of modern Date, none appears to be more remarkable and notorious than *Redmond O Hanlon*, the Reader is deſired to let him lead the Van.

The ſurpriſing Hiſtory of Redmond O Hanlon, *Protector of the Rights and Properties of his Benefactors, and Captain-general of the* Iriſh *Robbers; a moſt notorious, though a Gentleman-like Robber.*

REDMOND O H——N was the Son of a reputable *Iriſh* Gentleman, who had a conſiderable Eſtate, and lived at the Foot of *Sleygunnin* Mountains in the County of *Armagh*, among a vaſt Number of Relations, ſeveral whereof were of the ſame Name. After his Parents had given him the beſt Education the Time and Place afforded, they obtained a ſmall Poſt for him in the Army, where he ſerved a few Years with pretty good Credit, tho' very young, till the Reduction of the *Iriſh* Forces in this Kingdom, among which our *Redmond* was one.

The Nation being reduced by the *Engliſh* Forces under King *William*, ſeveral *Iriſh* Families, who had a Hand in the Wars of *Ireland*, were diſpoſſed, and their Lands forfeited; by which Means a very great Alteration was made in this Family, and ſeveral of the *O H——n*'s were obliged to travel, in hopes of retrieving their Fortunes. But poor *Redmond*, in this unhappy Condition, once happened to be at the killing of a Gentleman in a Quarrel, and flying for Safety, ſtay'd abroad for a long Time, ſtill refuſing to come to a Trial, till he was outlawed, which put him to his Shifts: But our Hero having received

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ſome Inſtructions in the Art of War, and being naturally of an undaunted Courage, was eaſily led into the Secret of invading other Men's Properties, both on the Highway and by breaking open of Houſes, till he had acquired as much Money as might have put him in a Way to live above the Frowns of Fortune, with good Management, all his Life.

But ſeeming to reliſh this new Courſe of Life more than the former, he proceeded in his Robberies till, from an Infancy in the Art, he became one of the moſt notorious and expert of that Profeſſion that had ever been bred in the Kingdom of *Ireland*. He had made himſelf acquainted with all the By-paſſages in the Country, and knew every Lurking-place on the Mountains of *Newry* and *Sleygunniv*, ſo that whoever pretended to purſue him made but fruitleſs Attempts, and commonly returned with loſs and Shame, like Dogs that had loſt their Ears, both before and after the Rewards were offered by the Government for apprehending him.

He was ſtrong and active, and, as Occaſion required, could perform his Feats either on Foot or on Horſeback; and tho' he was ſo notorious a Plunderer, yet he was naturally of a very generous Diſpoſition, frequently giving Share of what he got from the Rich to relieve the Poor in their Neceſſities. His remarkable Actions and ſurpriſing Attempts, ſpread his Character thro' all the Country; and being joined by a great Number of his former Acquaintance (advent'rous Lads, who became his Aſſociates ſpontaneouſly, till his Company was augmented to the Number of fifty effective Men, moſtly his own Relations) he then be-

gan to take upon him a Captain's Command, and appointed a Brigade to act in every Province, who were always to return (barring Accidents) four times a Year to their general Place of Rendezvous, and give an Account of their Succeſs, and as ſoon as the Booty was regularly divided, each Brigade was ordered to exchange Poſts, and to march out on Duty again. This was their conſtant Practice for ſome Years, by which Policy they kept themſelves concealed much longer than otherwiſe they would have done; However, there was no Robbery committed any where at all in the Kingdom but was attributed to Captain *O H——n*, tho' it is probable he might be an hundred Miles diſtant at the ſame Time: Nay, ſo well was his Character eſtabliſhed, and ſo notorious his Actions, that it became a common Proverb, when any Man had a Mind to brand another with Infamy or Scandal, for him to ſay, *You are as great a Rogue as* Redmond O H——n.

As *Redmond* was once gleding along the Road between *Newry* and *Armagh*, like a Kite in the Air in queſt of Prey, with only two or three Attendants, who were at ſome Diſtance behind him, he overtook a Pedler, crying out and bemoaning his Misfortune in a very moving and piteous Manner: *Redmond* taking Compaſſion of the Pedler, came up, and aſked him what had befallen him? To whom the Pedler replied, *That damned Rogue of a* Redmond O H——n *has robbed me of above five Pounds in Monies, which was all I had, and that would not ſatisfy him neither, but he has taken my Box away too, and becauſe I ſtrove to hold it he knocked me down, and kicked me and abuſed me like a Dog.* *Redmond*, incenſed at ſuch Language,

guage, had hardly Patience to hear the Fellow tell out his Story before he interrupted him, and called him a Raſcal and a lying Son of a Whore: *How could I rob you*, ſaid he, *that never ſaw you before? You Dog, ſhew me which Way he went, and I'll convince you that it was none of* Redmond O H——n *that robbed you.* By the Time the Fellow had deſcribed the Robber, and ſhewed the Road he took, *Redmond*'s Company came up, and they all went in purſuit of the new Rogue, whom they overtook, with the Pedler's Box under his Arm, and brought him back to the Place where he committed the Robbery. He knew himſelf guilty of the Fact, and returned the Pedler both his Money and Box, without waiting to be examined, being no way acquainted with *Redmond* or any of his Party. Upon this Captain *O H——n* ſaid, he would teach him to rob in his Name, and without his Licence or Permiſſion, and bound the Pedler under an Obligation to proſecute the Fellow at the enſuing Aſſize, and then wrote a Mittimus, and ſent the Criminal with a proper Guard to the Goal of *Armagh*. The Pedler was as good as his Word, and proſecuted him to the very utmoſt, upon which, the Fellow being found guilty, was accordingly executed: He was not altogether ſo deſtitute of Friends but that he had Counſel to plead for him, who inſiſted very much upon the Error in Commitment, and prevailed ſo far in Court as to have the Mittimus * produced and

* *The Mittimus, as we are informed, run thus,*
Com. Arm. } By *Redmond O H——n, in loco* of
} one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the
Peace

read, thinking to get the Trial poſtponed; but this was of no other Service than to give Riſe to as pleaſant a Fit of Merriment in Court as ever happened upon ſuch an Occaſion, the Judges and every one elſe laughing till they were ready to burſt, at the Conceit of *Redmond's* acting the Juſtice of Peace.

Redmond had a much greater Antipathy to the *Engliſh* than to the *Scotch* or *Iriſh*; for he was always kind to his Countrymen, and made a Bargain both with them and the North Country Pedlers, and all ſuch as acknowledged his Juriſdiction all over the Kingdom, alledging for Excuſe, that as he was a reduced Gentleman, he hoped his Countrymen would not refuſe to pay him Tribute towards his Maintenance, upon his deſiſting to plunder. Upon this he made Propoſals, that whoſoever paid him half a Crown *per Annum*, he would indemnify them from Robbers of all Kinds; but if at any time they neglected to remit him his Salary, and run in Arrears, they were ſure to pay for it. Such as made this Bargain with him, had their Names regiſtered in his Pocket-book, and were ſo little afraid of loſing any of their Goods by

Peace for the ſaid County, but chief Ranger of the Mountains.

I herewith ſend you the Body of ——, *who was this Day brought before me and examined, for robbing Mr.* —— *on the King's high Road, requiring of you to hold him in ſafe Cuſtody till the next general Aſſizes to be held for the ſaid County; and for your ſo doing this ſhall be your ſufficient Warrant. Given under my Hand this* 1*ſt Day of* March, 169⅝.

To — Goaler of *Armagh*. Redmond O H—n.

by Robbers, that they thought their Effects as ſafe in the Field as in the Houſe; for, if at any Time they happened to have any Thing ſtolen, upon Application to *Redmond*, he would make the moſt diligent Search that could poſſibly be made thro' all Parts of the Kingdom till he found it, and reſtored it to the Owner; and if he failed to find it, always allowed his Benefactor two Years Salary to compenſate the Loſs: But he had ſo many Emiſſaries, and ſuch good Intelligence, and all other petty Rogues were ſo much afraid of him and his Party, that none of them dared to diſoblige him; and, beſides, every petty Robber was ſerved with a Copy of the regiſtered Names, and had ſtrict Orders not to meddle with any Thing that belonged to ſuch, but to aſſiſt the Loſer in ſearching for his Goods; ſo that his Friends ſeldom ſuffered under his Protection.

Having once got Cold, upon ſome deſperate Occaſion, it threw him into a dangerous Fever, of which he recovered; yet the Place being damp where he lay, he loſt the Uſe of his Limbs, and continued a Cripple or lame for ſome Years: Yet during this Time he was preſerved among his Friends, who had a great Eſteem for him, and eſcaped from being taken, tho' he was proclaimed a Tory and a Robber, and a Reward of 50*l.* was offered for taking of him, which occaſioned frequent Searches after him. He likewiſe was punctually paid his Salary or Tribute all the Time by his Benefactors and Allies (except a few who broke the Truce, but dearly paid for it after) tho' Robberies were not ſo frequent during his Illneſs as before, ſo that he was under a Neceſſity of making

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his Pay maintain him till he was able to go about again.

As ſoon as he had recovered the Uſe of his Limbs he took the Field again, and ſcoured all the Roads in the Country, ſometimes alone, and ſometimes with Company, and took ſpecial Care to revenge himſelf on all thoſe that had neglected to ſend him his yearly Penſion while he was out of Order; but found himſelf ſo cloſely hunted, that he fixed his head Quarters in and about the Bog of *Allen* for a conſiderable Time, where he committed ſuch a Number of notorious Robberies, that the Country were obliged to keep under Arms to guard their Effects. The Government taking this Affair again into Conſideration, a freſh Proclamation was iſſued out, offering a Reward of 250*l.* for the taking of him; upon which ſeveral Attempts were made to ſecure him, but to no Effect; tho' he was once taken in Bed near *Clonbullock*, but had the good Fortune to be reſcued by his Comrades, as his Captors were leading him to *Naas* Gaol.

Tho' he was very well acquainted all over the Kingdom, yet he was loth to venture his Carcaſe any longer in this Place, and among Strangers, for fear of a ſecond Diſaſter; ſo he took an Opportunity of conveying himſelf privately to his old Quarters on *Sleygunnin*, where he remained ſome Time, and carried on his Game with great Succeſs, before his Enemies had Notice where to ſeek him.

Soon after his Return, he was in Company with ſome of his Aſſociates beyond *Armagh*, where they met with Cornet *Montgomery*'s Steward, who having received about 500*l.* from his Maſter's Tenants

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on an Eſtate he had in that Country, was carrying it home to his own Houſe, near *Killevan* in the County of *Monaghan* where he dwelt. *Redmond* ſtood at a little Diſtance all the Time of the Action, and obſerved the Diſpute on both Sides, and the Defence made by the Steward, which, tho' he maintained it with Bravery for ſome Time, yet was over-powered by Numbers, and obliged to deliver his Purſe to ſave his Life. When the Booty was divided, Captain *O H——n* made a Preſent of his Part to the Cornet's young Son, who was at nurſe in the ſame Place, which he ſent by the Steward, with ſtrict Orders to deliver it, and took his Acknowledgment for the ſame, payable on Demand. This he did out of a pure Regard that he had for the Cornet, on account of ſome Favour he had done him formerly; and the Cornet, to make him a Requital for ſo generous an Action, made a Promiſe that he would uſe his beſt Endeavours to obtain the King's Pardon for him, in hopes of his forſaking his new Trade, and was as good as his Word, as by the Sequel will appear.

A little after this Action, a Merchant in *Dundalk* had a Draught on a Merchant in *Newry* for a large Sum, but was ſo much in dread of *Redmond O H——n*, that he was afraid either to ſend for the Money, or to go for it himſelf: While he was conſulting with his Wife how to get the Money ſafely brought home, his Apprentice, a Lad of about ſixteen Years of Age, over heard their Diſcourſe, and as ſoon as he got an Opportunity, deſired his Maſter to tell him why he was ſo much afraid of ſending to *Newry*. The Maſter having anſwered his Requeſt, the Boy aſked him whether

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he would venture to truſt him with ſo much Money? The Maſter ſaid he did not doubt his Honeſty, but on that Occaſion he could not tell what to think of the Matter: However, by many Entreaties, the Boy prevailed on his Maſter to let him go for the Money, promiſing to forfeit his Ears if he loſt one Halfpenny of it. The Boy having obtained Privilege to go for the Money, immediately ſet about preparing himſelf for the Journey; and, by his Maſter's Aſſiſtance; being provided with about forty Shillings in Halfpence, he divided them into two Parcels, and tied them cloſe up in a little Wallet, at each End; then he went to the Field and brought home an old vicious Stone Horſe (much of the ſame Humour with Sir *Teague O Regan*'s War Horſe, on which he which he rode out to meet Duke *Schomberg*, after the Surrender of *Charlemont*) that when any other came up to him on the Road, he always ſtrove to bite or kick him, by which Means he commonly kept the Road to himſelf. With proper Accoutrements the Boy mounted, and had the Fortune to meet *Redmond* on the Road as he was going, who, as it was uſual with him, demanded where he was going. The Boy told him to *Newry*. *Pray what Buſineſs have you there?* ſays *Redmond*. *Why*, ſays the Boy, *to receive above* 100*l*. *for my Maſter. And when do you think you'll be back?* ſays *Redmond*. *Why*, ſays the Boy, *I believe about this time To morrow. Well, my good Boy*, ſays Redmond, *you had better take care and not tell every body what your Buſineſs is, for fear you ſhould be robbed. O*, ſays the Boy, *I'm ſure ſuch a Gentleman as you would not rob me, I don't intend to tell any body elſe.* Upon this *Redmond* made him a

Preſent

Preſent of a Ducat, to drink his Health, or to hire another Horſe if the one he had under him ſhould tire; and ſo they parted good Friends for that Time.

Redmond was then under ſome Neceſſities for a little Money; and as none of his Companions were preſent at the Dialogue, he was reſolved not to let them know any thing of the Matter, that he might have all the Booty to himſelf: And to make himſelf the more ſure of the Prey, he ordered his Comrades to a different Poſt the next Morning, and waited himſelf alone on the Road leading from *Newry* till the Boy returned.

When the Boy came in ſight, *Redmond* rode up and ſaluted him, and, after ſome Diſcourſe, began to aſk him the neceſſary Queſtions about the Money: The Boy ſeeming to have no Miſtruſt of his Deſign, confeſſed that he had received it, upon which the other preſently deſired him to let him ſee it: The Boy, ſeemingly under a Surprize, made ſeveral Excuſes, but they all availed him nothing; for, after a ſhort Parley, the other began to demand with ſome Authority, and would have taken hold of him, had he not been ſomething afraid of receiving a Kick from the mad Horſe. Among other Excuſes, the Boy alledged that his Maſter would think that he had made away with the Money himſelf, and deem him a Rogue, for which Reaſon he could not part with it, but at length, *Redmond* threatening to ſhoot him if he refuſed to deliver any longer, the Boy took his Wallet and caſt it over a Slough by the Road Side, and told *Redmond*, that *if he muſt have it, he ſhould follow it.* Upon this *Redmond* alighted from his Horſe, and having tied him to a Tree, with

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some Difficulty he got over the Slough and thro' the Hedge, to the Place where the Wallet lay. While he was upon this Expedition, the Boy changed Horses, much for the better, and rode home with speed, having the Money he had received at *Newry* safely quilted up in his Wastcoat, and tho' *Redmond* called after him to stay, with all the Eagerness in the World, yet he took no further Notice of him, but left him to make the best Hand he could of an old Garron and a Bag of Halfpence.

Shortly after this *Redmond* was presented with the King's Protection for three Years, on Trial of his good Behaviour, by Cornet *Montgomery*, who had taken some pains to obtain it, and remained for the space of above two Years very inoffensive in the Country, and kept Company with some of the best Gentlemen in the Kingdom, who not only took pleasure in hearing him relate his Exploits, but caressed and made much of him: However, tho' he knew very well, if he had continued his good Behaviour for the Term granted aforesaid, he might have obtained a general Pardon, yet this honest Way of living did not relish well with him; he had an Itch to be at the old Game, and accordingly began it before the limitted Time was expired, growing ten times more wicked and notorious than ever he had been before.

In Imitation of *Oliver Cromwel*, Lord-protector of the Commonwealth, he took upon him either the Title of Protector of the Rights and Properties of his Benefactors and Contributories, chief Ranger on the Mountains, Surveyor-general of the high Roads of *Ireland*, or Lord examiner of all Passengers; committing such Villanies and Barbarities

barities on ſturdy Travellers, as he called them, as were never heard of before; often driving away whole Herds of Cattle from ſuch as, in Contempt of his Protection and Authority, had given him Offence, by running in Arrear; tho' he ſaid he never uſed any ill that did not oppoſe him. Yet he ſeldom robbed a poor Man, but on the contrary was always generous to Men in Neceſſity or Diſtreſs. 'Tis ſaid, that having once overtaken a poor Man who had hardly any thing elſe left but one Cow, which he was driving to a Fair to be ſold, in order to raiſe the Rent for his Landlord, he aſked him ſeveral Queſtions, till he found certainly that he was in want, and then lent him five Pounds, which he was to pay him at an Inn a few Weeks after: The poor Man, proving perfectly honeſt, went with the Money according to Compact, which pleaſed *Redmond* ſo well that he beſtowed it to him, and five Pounds more, for ever.

He was likewiſe very generous to a Soldier, if he met him alone, and underſtood the Art of Diſſimulation, or diſguiſing himſelf, as well as any Man; ſometimes appearing like an Officer, ſometimes like a Country Gentleman, and ſometimes like a Footman, and could alter the Tone of his Voice at pleaſure; ſo that the Soldiers ſeldom knew him, tho' he often gave them Money to drink, unleſs he diſcovered himſelf. The Duke of *Ormond*, in his Time, ordered out a ſmall party of Horſe and Foot to purſue him, who being informed where he was, but not miſtruſting his Diſguiſe, went after him hot foot. *Redmond* perceiving how it was, dreſſed himſelf like an Officer and went quietly along the high Road, often looking backwards, till he ſaw the red Coats at a good

Diſtance

Diſtance behind him; then he haſtened to a Gentleman's Houſe near the Road, and told him he was an Officer who was ſent out with a party of Men in purſuit of *Redmond O H——n*, but being a little fatigued, made bold to call and reſt himſelf till his Men came up; then deſiring the People of the Houſe to call him as ſoon as they paſſed by, he ſtretched himſelf down to Reſt. The Soldiers had not gone above an hundred Yards paſt the End of the Avenue, before *Redmond* went out, in pretence of meeting them at a Stile by the Road ſide a quarter of a Mile off; but his Intent was to make his Eſcape another Way, which he did for that Time, unperceived.

Not long afterwards he appeared in *Armagh* in the Habit of a Country Gentleman, and requeſted of the commanding Officer there to let him have a few Men to guard him about eight Miles further, for fear of being met by any of *Redmond O H——n*'s Party, becauſe he had a Charge of Money about him. The Requeſt ſeemed very reaſonable, and upon his rewarding the Men beforehand, the Privilege was granted. He and the Men paſſed on very jocoſely for about ſeven Miles, till, as it ſeems, thinking himſelf ſafe enough, he told them he was out of Danger, and they might go back; upon this he gave every Man a Piece of Money, and deſired them to make a Diſcharge for Joy of his ſafe paſſage, which they did; then he deſired them to charge and do the like again, and again; till at length they told him their Ammunition was ſpent. This was what he expected, and giving a Whiſtle, a parcel of his Gang ſprung up out of the Thickets, who ſtripped the Soldiers of their Arms, Money and Ammunition-cloaths,

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in which ſhameful Condition they were obliged to go back to their Quarters.

A Relation of the ſurpriſing Eſcape he made at the Four-mile houſe, between *Dundalk* and *Newry*, may claim the Reader's Attention as much as any of theſe. Being there overtaken by an Officer and twelve Men, he was made a Priſoner; but ſeeming to have a great Reſpect for the Soldiers, and they for him, there was no Diſpute made; he ſubmitted to every Thing they demanded, and ſeemed ready and willing to go where they pleaſed. His ready Compliance and Civility, drew Compaſſion from the Men towards him, and as an Acknowledgment of their Kindneſs, he treated them with North Country Whiſky, taking care to drink ſparingly himſelf, till they were all overcome with that heady Liquor, and not one of them able to ſtand or ſpeak. While they were in this Condition, he got them all tied Neck and Heels, by the Aſſiſtance of ſome of his Comrades, and leaving them in that poſture, marched off with their Arms, which, it ſeems, he and his Gang had Occaſion for.

The Government being juſtly incenſed at the manner of his Proceedings and Behaviour, ſoon after iſſued out a Proclamation, offering a freſh Reward for his Head, dead or alive.

There was a Barrack alſo erected at *Carradeveſlin*, where two Troops of Horſe and two Companies of Foot were ordered, for the Security of the Country; which, tho' ſeveral of *Redmond*'s Comrades were diſperſed, put him under no Terror, for he robbed as frequently as ever, but kept in the Night at very private places.

A Captain

A Captain of Foot being informed of one of his Haunts, chose out twenty of the most active Men in the Barrack, who stripped themselves to their Wastcoats, and marched out in pursuit of him before break of Day in the Morning, with nothing but their Muskets and Bayonets, and a little Provision in their Pockets. In about two Hours they invested his Castle of Defence, where he lay alone that Night, but, in the midst of their Search, had the Mortification to hear him call out to them from an adjacent Hill, bidding Defiance; for, it seems, he had Warning of their Approach, tho' it was so short that he ran out but half dressed. Upon this the military Men held a Consultation of War, wherein it was resolved to divide themselves into three parties, and to pursue him without Delay. The Captain and ten Men were to follow the Chace in the Center, and five Men on each Wing, who were always to keep within a quarter of a Mile of the main Body. In this manner they followed him till Noon, without giving him Time to rest; but at length, several of the Men beginning to lag, the Chace was only maintained by four, who kept so nigh him as to have him in view now and then the greatest part of the Day, notwithstanding the Difficulties they had to surmount in ascending the Hills. In the Evening he hid himself in a Knot of Furze, about half a Mile from a small Village, where several of his Friends lived, intending to convey himself thither in the Night, expecting that the Soldiers would have gone on and have searched the Village before it grew quite dark; but here he was entirely mistaken, for his Pursuers (tho' he had out run them near half a Mile) upon losing sight of him, suspected

pected that he had hid himſelf, and having fired a Shot for a Signal, waited near the Place where they miſſed him till the whole Company came up, and then made a very diligent Search, but to no purpoſe: Upon this they held a freſh Conſultation, not many Yards from the place where *Redmond* lay, and concluded to ſit down and make a Repaſt of what Proviſion they had, and to lie under Cover till Morning. *Redmond* over-heard the Diſcourſe, and was reſolved to ſteal away, if poſſible, but was prevented by the Brightneſs of the Night, and the Men's walking to and fro to keep themſelves warm, till a little before Sun-riſe, when obſerving a Smoke at a Diſtance, they drew near, thinking to meet with ſome Houſe and refreſh themſelves; but inſtead of finding one they found a Village, where being furniſhed with freſh Proviſions, tho' at a dear Rate, as they were returning to renew the Search, they obſerved a Man at ſome Diſtance, making to a Cabin on the Side of a Hill, whom they purſued directly, and preſently found that they were ſtill upon the right Scent. But *Redmond* looking behind, tho' he was exceeding hungry, altered his Courſe, and the purſuit was renewed with great Warmth, inſomuch that *Redmond* had no Time to refreſh himſelf all Day long, and was obliged to hide himſelf next Evening on the Top of a Mountain, where he remained till break of Day, and then, being almoſt famiſhed with hunger, went to one of his Friends Houſes to get ſomething to eat.

At his coming up to the Door, one of the Dogs began to bark, which alarmed the Purſuers in the Center, who lay not far off; whereupon they all came up in a Body and ſurrounded the Houſe, juſt

as

as *Redmond* sat down with a Cake of Bread, some Butter, and a Can of Milk before him. It was now the third Day since he had eaten a Morsel and, being almost spent for want of Food, was just going to put the first Bit in his Mouth when the Captain of the little Army appeared at the Door, with a very kind Salutation, which *Redmond* (tho' under the greatest Surprize) returned with a Gentleman-like Air. *Mr.* O H——n (said the Officer) *I am glad we have overtaken you; we have been in pursuit of you near three Days with the King's Warrant, and at last are come up with you; now, Sir, you are the King's Prisoner, get ready, for you must come along with us. Redmond* replied, *Sir, I acknowledge that I am your Prisoner. and shall comply with your Orders immediately; but, Gentlemen, you have been hunting me these two Days past as I never was hunted in my Life, I have not had Time to put one Bit in my Mouth till now, and I beg, Sir, you'll just give me Leave to eat my last Breakfast with my Friends; as soon as I have done you shall carry me where you please, and it will be no small Honour to have the Credit of taking* Redmond O H——n, *only don't disturb me till I am ready.* This Privilege was readily granted him, and the Officer with eight Men stood at the Door, resting on their Arms, while the other twelve guarded the House on all Sides without, till *Redmond* had done; then he started up, taking his Blunderbuss in his Hand, and presenting it to the Officer, said, *Now you take me for your Prisoner, and I don't deny it; but you must give me a little Play, that the World should not have it to say that I was taken so sillily: You bear the Title of a Captain, so do I: if you refuse to*

give

give me Horſe Room and Car Room, I'll diſcharge my Piece at you this Inſtant, and you ſhall die with me. I expect nothing but Death, Gentlemen, but yet am reſolved to have fair Play, and to die honourably: I have but one Life to loſe, you can take no more, and perhaps I may make three or four of you bear me Company; for to Gaol I never will go alive. This Language ſurprized the Officer, who ſeemed to give way a little, as tho' he had a mind to conſent; upon which *Redmond* forced out of the Door, and ran for his Life. The Soldiers without were ſo ſituated, that he had got above twenty Yards before they could fire without danger of hurting one another; ſo that tho' every Shot was diſcharged after him, he got clear off, with only ſome ſlight Wounds, and made a complete Eſcape for that Time, taking great Advantage of the Delay they made in loading their Pieces again.

After this he had the Mortification, with five of his Gang, to be ſcared away from a lone Houſe in the Night, after a queer manner. Some of the Servants being abroad, happened to eſpy the Chaps at their firſt coming, and ſuſpecting the Deſign ran to the Fields, in order to catch a Horſe to go and alarm the Country; the Stud, affrighted at ſo ſudden a Diſturbance, galloped up towards the Houſe, and made a very great Noiſe, which the Gang took to be the Country in Arms at their Heels, and ran away in Confuſion, before they had Time to get much plunder, or to enter the Houſe.

It was about this Time that *P*—, the greateſt Robber in *Munſter*, out of meer Curioſity, took a Journey to the County of *Armagh*, purely for the ſake

take of ſeeing *Redmond O H——n*, of whom he heard abundance of fine Stories, but never had before been in his Company. When he came near the place of *Redmond*'s Abode, he put up at an Inn, but for ſome private Reaſons made no Enquiry that Night; for obſerving a Gentleman, as he thought, telling over a good Sum of Money, he took care to be informed which Road he intended to take in the Morning; upon which he purſued him, and overtook him at the ſide of a little Wood: At coming up, he demanded the Gentleman's Money without more ado, which he told him he ſaw him reckoning the Night before: The other told him, he had Money ſure enough, but ſwore, that whoſoever took it ſhould fight for it; upon which each of them diſcharged a Piſtol, but without any Damage, and then drew their Swords, with which they fought ſome Time on Horſeback, without much Harm or Advantage on either Side: At length, looking on one another, they forbore a while, and agreed to alight and decide the Quarrel on Foot; having alight, the Victory was contended for with equal Bravery and Loſs of Blood on both Sides, till they were able to fight no longer; then ſitting down to reſt, *Pray*, ſays the *Sampſon* of the North, *who are you? Or what's your Name?* Upon this the other confeſſed he was the chief Robber of *Munſter*, who hearing a great deal of *Redmond O H——n*'s Fame, came purpoſely to have an Opportunity of getting acquainted with him. Says *Redmond*, *Then you have ſatisfied your Curioſity, for I am the Man; and I muſt confeſs you are the heartieſt Lad that I ever met with; I never was ſo worſted before.* So the Battle ended; they kiſſed and became Friends, and

and he made a League to tarry with *Redmond* a Year and an half in the North; but not reliſhing ſo much Bannocks and Oatmeal as they uſually got in this Place, he returned again to his own Country, and ſurveyed only the *Munſter* Roads afterwards.

Before he departed they made a Truce, and promiſed to give one another Notice if at any Time either of them was put into Priſon, or in Diſtreſs, that the one at Liberty might relieve or reſcue the other, if poſſible. And ſoon after this the *Munſter* Tory was apprehended, and put into *Clonmel* Gaol, for robbing and murdering a Traveller on *Killinagowna*, near the Place where *Patrick Sarsfield* afterwards had the Fortune to blow up King *William*'s Artillery and nail down the Cannon. According to their Compact, he wrote a Letter to *Redmond*, which he received in *Armagh*, and having communicated the Contents thereof to his truſty Comrades, *Patrick Mac-tigh*, *John Reily*, *Shan Bernagh*, *Phil. Gallogh*, *Pat. Meel*, *Arthur O Neal*, and the famous *Brien O Kelly*, they took the Affair into Conſideration: But however, the Time being very ſhort, *Redmond* poſted away alone, and only reached to *Clonmel* the Evening before the *Munſter* Champion was to be led out to *Killinagowna*, in order to be executed. Being in the Habit of a Gentleman, he found Means of communicating with *P——*, and let him know that he intended to ſet the Town on Fire in ſeveral Places that Night, that while the People were in Confuſion he might have an Opportunity of executing his Deſign; but *P—* let him know the Danger of ſuch an Attempt, while a ſtrong Guard of Soldiers was kept in the Town, and diſſuaded

him from it, by telling him of a much better Opportunity that would offer on the Road the next Day, there being but a File or two of Foot Soldiers with the Sheriff, *&c.* to guard him; and ſo put him in a Way of forming a very probable Stratagem for making a Reſcue. Next Morning the Guard ſet out with the Priſoner, and having conducted him about half Way, they ſtopped a While at a publick Houſe on the Road to refreſh themſelves: The Priſoner was left in a ſmall Room at one End of the Houſe, under the Charge of four Soldiers, while the reſt ſat in a larger Room at the other End over a Cup of Liquor, not miſtruſting any Wile; tho' the Landlord was made privy to the Deſign, but abſolutely refuſed to give any Aid or Aſſiſtance, unleſs *Redmond* would promiſe to give him ſome ſlight Wound to ſave his Credit. To make the Story ſhort; while they ſat in this Poſture, *Redmond* appeared at the Door with the Furniture of a Gentleman, and having enquired the Cauſe of the Soldiers being there, he deſired to have the privilege of ſeeing the Priſoner, which being readily granted to him, he called for Wine in great plenty to treat the Men, and paid the whole Reckoning with a great many fine Compliments. This being over, the Officer, to make a Return for ſuch Gratitude, called for more Wine to treat the Gentleman, while the Men were plied with Liquor, by *Redmond*'s private Orders, to facilitate his Deſign.

As ſoon as he thought convenient, he ſtepped out, in pretence of making Water, and looking round about him, to ſee whether the Coaſt was clear, he obſerved eight Men riding towards him, and waiting till they came up, found they were

ſome

ſome of his own Comrades, to whom he had communicated the Affair before he left the North, who had followed him in order to aſſiſt him. To be ſure the News was very agreeable, and his Comrades could never meet him in a more welcome Time; for that Moment, ſeeing an Opportunity of releaſing his Brother, they conſulted the Manner of executing their Deſign, and had the Luck to reſcue him in a very ſurpriſing Manner, as follows: One of the Gang held the Horſes at the End of the Houſe, while the reſt followed *Redmond* into it, who opening a Door that was in the paſſage, to prevent any in the lower Room from looking up into the other, ſtood there and made ſome kind of a Noiſe, not only to drown the Voices of thoſe with the Priſoner, during the Scuffle, but to hinder the others from coming out to ſee what the Matter was, if there aroſe any Suſpicion. In the mean while ſeven of the North Country Robbers entered into the little Room, and taking Advantage of the ſmall Guard, while they were in Liquor, diſpatched and laid aſide the four Men ſo ſuddenly that they had no Time to cry out; and then having cut the Cords wherewith the Priſoner was bound, he followed them out, and mounted one of the Horſes with very little Noiſe, and ſo made his Eſcape to the Mountains along with his new Company. Things were ſo ſituated that *Redmond* himſelf was the firſt who gave Notice of the Eſcape, and aſſiſted the Sheriff and the Guard in purſuing the Reſcuers for ſeveral Miles, till finding an Opportunity in the Evening, and obſerving that ſeveral of the Guards, being overcome with Liquor, had lagged behind, he turned off ſhort, giving them the ſlip on the Mountains,

and followed his Comrades directly to *Longford-pass*, near the Bog of *Allen*, without stop or stay, where he had directed them to post away before him. Here they all met, according to Agreement, but what End became of *P*—— after is uncertain, tho' partly related in the next.

Some time after this, when the Soldiers in the Barrack erected at *Carrodelwin* had marched out of their Quarters, and fresh ones had supplied their Room, *Redmond* having contrived the Plot himself, took out with him eighteen Men (among whom were the aforesaid *Mac-tigh*, *Reily*, *Bernagh*, *Galloge*, *Meel*, *O Neal* and *Kelly*, all armed) and went in the Night as privately as possible to the Barrack, in order to be revenged of the Soldiers for the severe hunting he got some Time before that, when he made a very surprising Escape. It seems the Soldiers had no Suspicion of Captain *O N*——*n*'s Adventure, for they were all asleep, otherwise it appears to be very improbable how the Rapparees could open the Door and steal away eighteen Horses unknown to the Guard. However, so it was, the eighteen *O Hanlonians* made off with eighteen Horses, making no Delay till they came to *Ballibey*, about eight Miles distant from the Barrack, where then stood an old Castle in a Valley, at the Foot of a great Hill: Here they alight to get some Provender for the Horses, where I shall leave them a while, and return to the Barrack, to observe how the Army behaved.

How the Robbery was first discovered is not known, but this is Fact: Eighteen Horsemen, each with a Foot Soldier behind him, began the pursuit early in the Morning, and following the Tracks

Tracks of the Horſes, came within ſight of them about nine o'Clock in the Morning, in the Valley aforeſaid. As ſoon as Captain *O H—n* perceived the Purſuers, he marked out a Circle, and gave Orders to his Men to draw the Horſes up into an Half moon, and prepare for a Battle. His Reaſon for marking out the Circle was, that his Men might move the more regularly, and keep the Face of the Half-moon ſtill towards his Enemy, every Man ſtanding cloſe to his Horſe, to prevent the Soldiers from firing; becauſe they knew very well the Dragoons did not purſue them with an Intent to kill their own Horſes.

In this Poſture they were juſt by the Side of a large Trench (over which it was impoſſible for a Horſe to paſs) when the Officer came within Shot; and tho' he was a Man of Experience, yet could not adventure with any Safety to fall on them at once, which occaſioned a long Debate; and at length Captain *O H——n* gave the Officer a fair Challenge, either to decide the Matter by a Field Battle, or to give three Guineas a piece for the Horſes; but the Offer was rejected, and ſeveral Stratagems were made uſe of by the Officer to break the Order of the Rapparees; which *Redmond* obſerving, and fearing that the Footmen would find a Paſſage over the Trench, and get behind him while the reſt were before, he thought proper to make a more moderate Offer, which was to return the Horſes at a Guinea a-piece, and to be allowed the privilege of marching off unmoleſted with his Gang; if this were refuſed, he ſwore that every Man he had ſhould fire upon the Army, making no doubt but they would kill eighteen Men at leaſt, and that ſeveral of them-

ſelves would eſcape afterwards. This audacious Challenge occaſioned a Council of War to be held, wherein it was concluded to give him the laſt D[illegible]mand, with privilege of retiring an hundred Yards before a Soldier moved from his Place, to prevent the Loſs of Men and Horſes; ſo a Meſſenger was ſent with the Money, which, when Captain *H—n* had received, he and his Men made Uſe of the privilege, and retired behind the Trench, which before was unperceived by the Officer, who otherwiſe, upon an earlier Diſcovery, might have made *Redmond* a Priſoner, tho' not without running a great Riſque. Thus this ſurpriſing Adventure ended without ſtriking a Blow.

This laſt Action of *Redmond*'s incenſed the Government to the higheſt Degree, and a freſh Proclamation was iſſued out, offering a Reward of 400*l.* or more for his Head, dead or alive, and 40*l.* apiece for the eighteen Men that were with him. The Family of the *Cootes* at *Coote hill*, were very active and ſucceſsful in taking his Comrades, as likewiſe the Family of the *Johnſons* of the *Fews*; and in a few Years the moſt of his chief Men were taken and executed, except the aforeſaid *Reily*, who had been ſo cloſely hunted by Eſq; *Coote*, that he fled for his Life to *France*, where ſhortly after the ſame *Coote*, being on his Travels, and having killed a Man in fighting a Duel, contrary to the Laws of that Nation, was tried and found guilty. *Reily* hearing that *Coote* was in Danger of his Life, came to him, and after letting him know how often he had hunted him, told him he was then come to render Good for Evil; and accordingly, with ſome Aſſiſtance he reſcued him, and helped him to make his Eſcape to *Ireland* again.

When

When *Coote* got home he enquired for *Reily*'s Family, and having found his Father only in the poſſeſſion of a ſmall Potato-garden, one Cow, and a little Cabbin, on the Mountain, he made him a freehold Leaſe of a ſmall Piece of Land in the County of *Monaghan*, which the *Reily*'s Family ſtill enjoy, and is now of conſiderable Value.

Brien Kelly was the moſt active Servant that *Redmond* had, and merits a Place in Hiſtory (if a Rogue can have Merit) almoſt as well as his Maſter, having been in Company with him in moſt of his daring Enterprizes, as well as in ſeveral more private; but as the Particulars have not been told me, I ſhall only relate one, and let the reſt lie in Oblivion. While *Redmond* reſided near *Allen*, *Kelly*, with two or three green-horn Rapparees, beſet a Houſe in the County of *Kildare* about ten o'Clock at Night, and having eaſily found Means to convey themſelves into a Pig's-ſty at one End of the Houſe, where there was a Hole made in the Wall, thro' which the Whey was uſually conveyed into the Swine-trough: The Servant Maid, who was a brave ſturdy Girl, had Occaſion to go into the Dairy with a Candle, and obſerving that the Hole was grown ſomething wider than before, miſtruſted that all was not right: Upon this ſhe took up a large Cleaver, and putting out the Candle conveyed herſelf to the Side of the Hole to watch, for a conſiderable Time. When all was huſh'd, the Hands fell to Work again to pick out the Stones of the Wall, and make the Hole wider, and preſently came in a Head and Shoulders, which the Girl perceived by the Light of a Window, and making ready to give a Stroke, the Fellow likewiſe diſcovered her,

and

and called to his Comrades to draw him back, becauſe the Hole was too narrow; but the Girl had taken Care to lighten the Load, by cutting off the Head, which terrified the reſt without ſo much, that they fled for the ſame, and no body came afterwards to challenge the Dead, neither was it known who he was, till *Kelly*, the great Murderer and Robber, confeſſed it afterwards in his laſt Speech at the Gallows of *Armagh*: However, the Girl was highly applauded. But now to return to *Redmond*, and finiſh his Life.

The Gallows having deſtrowed many of his Accomplices, and the large Rewards that were offered for taking himſelf, encouraged even private Perſons to endeavour to take him: And as the Family of the *Johnſons* at the *Fews* are at preſent very ſerviceable to their Country, in apprehending Tories and Rapparees, ſo were they then; for the vigilant old Mr. *Johnſon* ſeldom let him reſt after his chief Comrades were cut off, but hunted him over Hills and Dales; but more particularly once, having Notice that he was at *Narrow-water*, took ſome Men and Arms with him, and purſued him hot foot almoſt all the Way to *Carlingford*, where, for fear that he ſhould get and hide, and ſo convey himſelf away by Sea in the Night, his Paſſages were all intercepted, which *Redmond* obſerving, he made up to an Alehouſe by the River Side, at which Time it happened there was no Boat near hand, nor Bridge within a Mile and half of the Place. By ſome Means or other old *Johnſon* got Notice of it, and haſted to the Place, not thinking it poſſible for *Redmond* to eſcape over ſo broad a River while the Tide was in, for he had no other Way left. When old

Johnſon

Johnſon and his Men came near, they obſerved that *Redmond* had ſtripped off his Cloaths, and tied them on his Back, with which he took the River, and ſwam down moſtly under Water for above two hundred Yards: This prevented his receiving the Shot of his Purſuers till out of Danger; and what was as remarkable as this, when Mr. *Johnſon* ſent his Dog after him to ſeize him, the Dog ſnapp'd at the Coat, and at the ſame Time *Redmond* turned about and took hold of him by the Throat, and dragging him along with him under Water he drowned him quite; (for *Redmond* was a famous Swimmer) and in a little Time he gained the Bank on the other Side of the River, then dreſſed himſelf, and fled directly to the Iſland of *Magee* near *Belfaſt*, where he lurked privately for a Year or more, till he thought the Country had forgot him, and then came up to the County of *Armagh* to make new Adventures, but did not reign long.

He was now under more Apprehenſions of Danger than ever, and appeared but ſeldom publickly abroad; yet, tho' he was ſomewhat advanced in Years, he fell deſparately in Love with an Innkeeper's Daughter, a very beautiful young Woman, whom he had prevailed upon by Entreaties and valuable Gifts, after a long Suit, to yield to his luſtful Embraces, upon a kind of a ſham Marriage: However, he was very fond of her, and ſpent moſt of his Time in her Company, till her Father hearing who he was, and what Reward was offered for apprehending him, endeavoured to get her to betray him; but all to no Purpoſe; for it only gave *Redmond* Warning to conceal himſelf with more Caution. But at length one

Douglaſs,

Douglaſs, a Miniſter of the eſtabliſhed Church, in the Pariſh where the young Woman moſtly reſided, knowing that ſhe was brought up a Proteſtant, and that *Redmond* only went to hear Maſs (if he frequented any Place of Worſhip at all) thought that ſhe might be prevaled upon, on this Account, to make a Diſcovery; but all his Endeavours even appeared to be fruitleſs for a long Time, till *Redmond* took ſome Occaſion to abuſe her; then this *Douglaſs* began to work on her again, and at laſt obtained his End. The young Woman, according to her Promiſe to *Douglaſs*, took an Opportunity to ſend a Meſſenger to him, and gave him Notice where *Redmond* was, juſt as he was going into Bed after a hard Fit of drinking. In a little Time a Guard came up and took him aſleep, and he was hurried to *Armagh* and put into Goal, with about twelve Stone of Irons upon him, where he remained till the Aſſize, and being tried, was found guilty of ſuch a Number of Facts * that he was condemned, and his Body ordered to be cut in four Quarters, and to be hung up in different Places, as a Terror to others; notwithſtanding which he gave three ſurpriſing Jumps

* *What the old Women ſay of his Mother's Dreams, of her going to conſult an Aſtrologer upon his Birth, and of his having a T--n his Breaſt when born, is all a Story and Fiction; tho' 'tis certain, that his Exploits ſpread his Fame thro' moſt Countries in* Europe. *In* England *he was called Captain* O H--n, *but in* France *Count* H---n, *by all his Fraternity.*

And tho' ſome Soldiers loſt their Lives in the Reſcue of P---r, *yet he was entirely againſt it, and intended only to over-do them by Liquor.* Kelly *was the chief Actor in the Tragedy, therefore* Redmond *ought not to bear the Scandal of ſo foul a Deed.*

Jumps in Court, to ſhew his Activity, tho' ſo heavily loaded with Iron.

However, 'tis ſaid that he was afterwards either enlarged, or made his Eſcape out of Priſon; for he died at laſt by the Hands of one of his own Relations (and Foſter-brother) who, for the ſake of the large Reward (offered for *Redmond*'s Head) cauſed his Wife to lay a Wile for him, and ſhe having betrayed him under a Pretence of giving him ſome Refreſhment, he being weary ſtretched himſelf down to reſt, and was ſhot thro' the Head as he lay aſleep in a Barn: He that ſhot him had the Head carried on a Staff to *Armagh*, and got the Thanks of the whole County, beſides the Reward, at the enſuing Quarter Seſſions.

Thus ended the memorable Life of that notorious Highwayman and Robber *Redmond O H——n*, on whom there was a very curious Song compoſed in *Iriſh* after his Death, tho' never printed. But Stories concerning him differ greatly; nevertheleſs, had all his Exploits and Actions been recorded, they would have made as remarkable a Hiſtory as moſt of the *Iriſh* Giants.

The Life of Captain Power, *a genteel Robber.*

CAPTAIN *P——r* was a younger Son of a worthy Gentleman, who had a good Freehold or Eſtate at *Kilvullan* in the County of *Corke*; but having entered into a Suit of Law, contrary to his elder Brother's Advice, was caſt; upon which

which he withdrew privately, and contemned all Proceedings at Law, till a Writ of Outlawry was issued out against him, so that he thought himself not secure in any publick Place. There had been some Difference between him and his Brother before that, and being somewhat disgusted, his high Spirit chose to undertake any way of living rather than submit to the Courtesy of Friends. He was at length prevailed upon to try his Fortune on the Highway, and had great Luck; but was never observed to abuse any Travellers, without they opposed him, nor seldom took any Thing from a poor Man, if he knew it. Some Offers were made for granting him his Pardon, yet he was afraid to come in, and continued a Surveyor of the high till his Death.

After his Refusal of accepting the King's Pardon, a Proclamation was issued out and a Reward offered for taking him; but he still pursued his usual Courses till his Character was thoroughly established. It once happened that an Ensign in *Corke* was informed that Capt. *P——r* was drinking alone at an Inn, on the Road leading from *Kilworth*, and hearing that there was a Reward of forty Pounds offered for apprehending him, he went out with a File or two of Musqueteers, who all entered the House in the Evening, before *P—r* was aware. *P——r* was sitting in a Room or Parlour at the End of the House when the Officer came in, who enquired for him, and being told where he was, went into the Room (first having desired Admittance) to take share of a Bottle with him, leaving the Men together over a Pot of Ale in the Kitchen. After some Discourse our Officer challenged him, and said he was his Prisoner; but

P——r

P——r was too many for him, he faſtened the Door, and with a Piſtol cock'd and a Sword drawn in his Hand, demanded the Enſign's Money; and after he had ſecured it, he left the Officer bound on a Bed, and ſtole out of the Houſe unperceived by the Soldiers, who thinking the Priſoner ſafe drank too hard, and then marched back to *Corke* like ſo many Fools. By this we may learn, how fooliſh a Thing it is to truſt an *Iriſh* Priſoner's Honour, when his Life is in Danger.

Captain P——r made ſome Advances after this in *Leinſter*, where coming one Evening to an obſcure Farmer's Houſe, expecting to get a Night's Lodging, he obſerved that the Man and his Wife were in deep Sorrow, which occaſioned him to demand the Cauſe of their Grief. After many Pauſes, the Farmer at laſt told him, that having run in Arrears with the Landlord, he had cauſed him to be ſerved with an Ejectment, and that in a few Days he would be turned out of Poſſeſſion, and all the Effects he had taken from him. Upon this *P——r* took Compaſſion on them, and grew more and more ſollicitous, till he found out what Day the Landlord intended to take Poſſeſſion: Then he aſked the Farmer whether he had any Friend at all that would endeavour to help him; the Farmer ſaid he knew of none: Then ſaid *P——r*, *If a Friend ſhould be ſo kind as to lend you as much Money* (which he underſtood to be about ſixty Pounds) *as would clear off your Landlord, would you repay it again if you could? Indeed*, ſaid the Farmer, *I would if I could. Well! then*, ſays *P——r*, *here is ſo much, I'll be your Friend ſo far as to lend it to you only upon your own*

Notes; which he gave him, promising not to let his Landlord know that he had any Money till he had made all the Excuses that were possible, nay even so far as to let him begin to drive the Cattle and turn him out of Possession. This passed on very well till the Landlord came with the Sheriff in order to possess himself; and after the Tenant had delayed as long as it was safe, he at last told him, a Friend of his had left so much Money with him to keep, and that rather than be turned out a Beggar, he would give it to his Landlord, and let his Friend wait till he could raise it.

The Landlord accepted the Money, but was obliged to give his Tenant an Acquittance in full for all Rent and Arrears whatsoever, and then, after having abused his Tenant and called him a Rogue and Villain several times, because he did not pay the Money long before that, thinking it was his own, he mounted his Horse and rode homewards, the Sheriff having taken another Way.

P——r in Disguise way-laid the Landlord on the Road, and took all his Cash, with a Watch and some other Things of Value from him; and meeting his Tenant two or three Days afterwards, told him his Money was unlucky, for he had lost it every Penny, and a good deal more with it, on the Road, being taken from him by a Highway Robber, whom he described as well as he could, not remembering ever to have seen him. In less than a Week *P—r* called at the Farmer's House, dressed as he was at first, in order to see how he fared: The Farmer told him the whole Story, and how that his Landlord was robbed (which he was little sorry for) on the Road. He entertained

P——r

P——r very handſomely that Night (not miſtruſting that he was the Robber) and gave him a thouſand Thanks for the Uſe of his Money, promiſing to raiſe it for him as ſoon as he could. *P——r* ſeeing the Man's Integrity deſired him to be under no Concern, for he did not intend to aſk him for it; then tearing the Note in Pieces he bid the Farmer adieu.

We have but an imperfect Account of the reſt of the Actions of his Life: However, by all Reports, he was very generous to the Poor, and often told the Rich, that he took their Purſes to make a Diſtribution among ſuch as were in Want. He was at laſt betrayed, for a ſmall Reward by his Brother's Servant Maid, who ſeeming to be his Friend, ſat drinking with him at an Alehouſe near *Corke*, till ſhe got an Opportunity of pouring Water into the Pans of his Blunderbuſs and Piſtols, and then ſent privately for the Guards, who ſurrounded the Houſe and made him a Priſoner. He was taken to *Corke* bound, and being there tried and found guilty, was accordingly executed, much about the Time that *Redmond O H—n* came firſt in vogue. He was only dubbed a Captain, by reaſon of his Exploits, by the reſt of his Society.

At the Place of Execution he gave a very kind Caution to all young Men, deſiring them to ſhun the Company of leud Women. It was by giving himſelf too much Indulgence with ſuch Cattle that he was prevented from accepting his Pardon, when offered, which at laſt brought him to that ignominious Death. *By Women*, ſaid he, *was I enticed to continue in Sin, and by a Woman was I at laſt betrayed, tho' ſhe pretended to be my Friend.* Which Speech melted the Spectators into Tears.

Some

Some Passages of the Life of Strong John Mac-Farcin, *a notorious Robber.*

I could never learn certainly where *John Mac-Farcin* was born; but his Parents were not so poor but they were able to bequeath him a pretty little Income at their Death. He was then about nineteen Years of Age when the Effects came into his Hands, which he made a shift to spend in the Company of pert Women and Gamesters in less than three; during which Time he was always a leading Man at Hurlings, Patrons and Matches of Foot-ball, and acquired such Fame by his wondrous Activity, that no single Person dared to oppose him at any Exercise. He was accounted in his Time the strongest Man in the Nation; he could hold an Hundred Weight at Arm's Length in one Hand, and would make little or nothing of twisting a new Horse-shoe round like a Gad; yet, notwithstanding all his Activity he was soon reduced to Poverty, and so, from one Step after another, brought to the Gallows. Want of Precaution and Care in the Beginning, often lays Men under Difficulties they can never surmount; and Men that are bred up in Luxury and Idleness, seldom settle themselves rightly to Business ever after. Nothing is more commendable in Youth than Industry, 'tis the Bulwark and Preservation of a Commonwealth, and the Support of private Persons and Families. When Vice has settled itself in the Bone, no Medicine that can be applied to the Flesh will expel it. Of this Kind we have

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an Example before us. This *John Mac Farcin*, when he had ſold his little Income and ſpent what he had, was under a Neceſſity of ſeeking for a Livelihood ſome how or other. He was a Stranger to Work, and it was beneath him to beg, neither could he brook to rely on the Courteſy of Friends, who (as it uſually falls out in ſuch Caſes) began to look very ſhy on him.

Upon this he began to think of a new Way of Living, and having provided himſelf with ſome Weapons and a very good Staff, he betook himſelf to the high Road, far enough from his native Place not to be known. In his firſt Attempts, when he came up with any one that he knew had Money, he firſt requeſted of them to lend him ſome, and if by Terror or Perſuaſion he could prevail on them ſo to do, he wou'd be pretty moderate, and commonly took but a Part; but, upon any Reſiſtance, he made little or nothing of taking a Man by the Arm and pulling him off his Horſe, then he uſually would give him a pretty hearty Squeeze, which ſeldom failed to bring him into Compliance, and to deliver without further Trouble; yet if a Man ſtill continued ſturdy, his Cuſtom was to throw him over his Shoulder, and run away with him to ſome private Place, and there rifle him; what became of the Horſe he mattered not.

This was his common and uſual Way of robbing, which he continued for many Years, very ſeldom with Company, but moſtly alone. One Evening he went into a Country Houſe by himſelf, and when he had carried all the People he met in his Way into another Room, and faſtened the Door, he began to put his Plunder in order

for carrying it off; mean while some Workmen that were employed above Stairs, came down and set the rest loose, who all fell upon him together with Clubs and other Instruments, till he was almost over-powered; at last he got hold of the Woman of the House, whom he cast over his Shoulder, to skreen himself from the Blows, (knowing very well they would not strike for fear of hurting her) and ran away with her into a little Wood just before the House, here he had laid her down, and clapped his Foot upon her Petticoats, to prevent her from stirring, while the rest stood at some Distance holding a Parley, and threatning, for they were afraid to do any more; but it was all to no purpose, he parly'd them out of twenty Pieces of Gold before he quitted her, and then left their Coasts.

This Method of taking up the Women, when he was hard set, he always practised after, and it still answered his Ends; and these are two Examples of his common Way of robbing. He was never known to murder any Body; nay, he was very cautious of striking, unless in his own Defence; tho' in his Time he committed more Robberies single Hand by far than ever *Redmond O H——n* did, with whom he was acquainted, but none of his Gang. However, he was at last taken up by Treachery, and after being tried and found guilty, was dispatched by the common Finisher of the Law about the Year 1678: As he was carried to the Gallows, he played a fine Tune of his own composing on the Bagpipes, which retains the Name of *Mac Farcin*'s Tune to this Day.

The

The Hiſtory of Patrick Flemming, *a notorious Robber.*

THE Parents of *Patrick Flemming* were very poor People, and when he was born lived in *Athlone*, ſupporting themſelves only by hard Labour; yet as poor as they were they took ſome Care to ſend him to School as long as they could afford, where, being a Boy of a ready Wit, he learned to read and write tolerably well in a ſhort Time. At thirteen Years of Age he was recommended to the Counteſs of *Kildare* for a Foot Boy; but when he came to get a full Belly, he he grew ſo unlucky and negligent of his Buſineſs that he was ſoon diſmiſſed. Some Time after this he got into the Service of the Earl of *Antrim*, where he committed ſo many unlucky Tricks that a Man would be tired to rehearſe the tenth Part of them; but one of the moſt notorious was that of his abuſing the Prieſt, which they ſay was thus: The Earl kept a Prieſt in his Family that lay in a dark Cell, as the Place of his Choice, and being naturally a very heavy Sleeper, and one that had ſuffered ſome Diſgrace in his Character about Women (tho' very wrongfully) *Patrick* watched an Opportunity, when he was faſt by the Eyes, and ſtole into the Cell, where he wrote on the Wall by the Bed Sides *Woe be to you Whoremongers*; and then bringing in a young Calf, that they were about weaning from its Dam, which he had taught to ſuck his Fingers, he uncovered the Prieſt very eaſily, who lay on his Side, with his Face outwards, and put his Bauble into the

Calf's Mouth; *F——g* then ſtole out, and the Calf, finding ſomething like a Teat, began to lug ſo hard that he awakened the Prieſt, who, in a very great Surprize, put out his Hand to feel what had got hold of him, and ſtriving to ſhift as far as he could to the other Side, the Calf purſued, and clapped one of its Feet on the Bed, which was the firſt Thing the Frier got hold of, and finding it was a cloven Foot, concluded that the Devil was come to pay him a Viſit, and roared out (like *Perillus* in the brazen Bull that he had made for *Phalaris*) for Aſſiſtance. The Servant Maids hearing the Noiſe, went in with a Candle to ſee what had happened; but ſeeing the Calf nuzzling the Prieſt in ſuch a manner, they ran away ſcreaming like People bewitched, while he bauled out as loud as he could for his Holy Water to lay the ſuppoſed Dæmon; upon which ſeveral of the young Ladies and moſt of the Family went in to ſee what was the Matter, the Calf ſtill following the Teat, and the Frier all the While ſaying his Prayers and croſſing himſelf; but one of the Servants, having more Courage than the reſt, went up and took the Calf off, and perceiving preſently what it was, burſt into a Fit of Laughter, while the reſt, upon Diſcovery, all joined him and bore a Chorus: However, they were all at a Loſs to know how the Hand Writing came on the Wall, one conjecturing this Thing, and another that, till ſome Time after *Patrick* told it to one of his Fellow ſervants, who preſently informed his Maſter, for which Offence he was turned out of the Earl's Service, tho', not before, he took an Opportunity of conveying out of the Houſe, Plate and Money to the Value of

4 *l.* with which he fled into the County of *Roſcommon* in *Connaught*, and hid himſelf in a Cave near the River *Shannon* for about a Fortnight, never ſtirring out but in the Evening for a little Proviſion, till the Hue and Cry was over, and then he went up to *Dublin*, where for the ſpace of ſix Years, he committed more Robberies than ever were known before in that Time. He continued in *Dublin* for the ſpace of four Years, with the greateſt Succeſs that could attend a Rogue, till one *Sunday* Morning, making too free with another Man's Wife, the Huſband, tho' one of his Accomplices, vow'd Revenge, and in about three Weeks after *F——g* was taken and committed to Gaol, 'tis thought, thro' his Aſſociate's Means; but he found Meaſures to make his Trial eaſier than moſt People expected, tho' ſeveral Indictments were read againſt him. As ſoon as he got clear of this Job, he fell to his old Trade again of ſtealing, robbing and knocking Men down in the Night, which he continued near two Years longer, till at length he became ſo well known that People could point him out in the Day-time going along the Streets, but were afraid to lay violent Hands on him, having the Name of being ſuch a violent Rogue and barbarous Murderer, and that alſo in a very troubleſome Time: However, it was his Fate to be once more ſeized and committed to Gaol in *Dublin*, where the Trial went ſo hard againſt him, that he ſwore he would never venture a third Trial in the ſame Place; and accordingly, as ſoon as he got clear, with one or two of his truſty Accomplices, having prepared proper Materials for a Tent, they went down, well armed and mounted, and ſet it up on the Edge of the

Bog of *Allen*, not caring to venture himself in ſtrange Houſes at that Time. Having fixed his Scouts, and learned the Roads of the Country very well, his new Succeſſes puffed him up with ſo much Impudence, that his uſual Compliment to Paſſengers was, *I am chief Lord of the Country, and Collector of this Road; you ſhall pay Tribute to* Patrick F——g. In one Morning, with very little Aſſiſtance, he robbed no leſs than 125 Men on the Mount of *Baltimore*, and was ſo little afraid of being taken that he lay within ten Miles of the Place the next Night, where he gave the Servant Maid a couple of Pieces of Gold, for ſome Obligations ſhe had done him, withal telling her how he got them. Nay, ſo great was his Inſolence, that his frequent Apology to Perſons of Quality when he met them on the Road, was, *I am* Patrick F——g, *the greateſt Man by Birth in the Kingdom, and the beſt bred, you muſt come down to ſupport my Grandeur.* It was his Luck once, tho' alone, to have the Honour of robbing both the Primate and Biſhop of *Raphoe*, as they were riding together in a Coach, with ſix Men attending them, and becauſe they made no Reſiſtance, he uſed them very honourably, doing no further Damage, after borrowing what Money and Bills they had, than cutting the Reins of all their Bridles, to prevent a Purſuit. Another Time, having met with the Lady *Baltimore*, from whom he took 100*l.* in Money, a Diamond Ring and a Watch; but not contented therewith, he took her Son, a Child of four Years old, Priſoner, whom ſhe was obliged to ranſom for 300*l.* more in twenty-four Hours, leſt *F——g* ſhould kill him, as he ſwore he would if ſhe refuſed. Not long after this,

this, having Notice that the Archbiſhop of *Tuam* was going to *Dublin* with 1000*l.* in Money, he was Way-laid by *F——g*, who took every Farthing, and abuſed his Servants and Horſes, for making Reſiſtance, after ſuch a Manner, that the Biſhop was obliged to wait at a paltry Alehouſe three Days for a freſh Set of Horſes, and one of the Servants was three Months before his Wounds were healed: Nevertheleſs, the Biſhop being well beloved in the Neighbourhood, and offering Rewards, the Country reſolved to take *Patrick*, if poſſible, which obliged him to ſhift his Quarters, and flee into the Province of *Munſter* for Safety. In *Munſter* he committed as many Robberies, and play'd his uſual Pranks as faſt as ever, ſcouring the whole Country, and ſparing neither Man, Woman nor Child that refuſed to gratify him in any Requeſt, drinking, whoring, gaming, and playing the Devil in every Shape, Night and Day; till at length being apprehended for robbing a Nobleman of 250*l.* he was committed to *Corke* Gaol, but he found Means, tho' with great Difficulty, to make his Eſcape up the Chimney, which prolonged his Life a little longer.

Nevertheleſs he continued his Villanies after this ſo long in *Munſter*, that Examinations were ſworn againſt him for murdering five Men and two Women, with a Boy of fourteen Years of Age, at ſundry times, beſides robbing them of all they had: And 'tis currently reported, that having met with Sir *Donagh O Brien*, he abuſed him moſt groſly, (for refuſing to deliver upon *F——g*'s Orders) and cut off his Noſe and one of his Ears with a Hanger, tho' he made a very gallant Reſiſtance; but ſhortly after a Proclamation

was

was-issued out, offering a Reward of 100*l.* (*Sterl*) for the taking of him, dead or alive, which obliged him to shift his Quarters to the Bog of [illegible] again, fixing an Alehouse near *Manooth* for one of his Places of Rendezvous.

But the Devil at last leaving *F———g* in the Lurch, the Landlord, tho' one of his Intimates, for sake of the Reward, went and informed the Sheriff of the County, that he might be taken every Night in the Week at his House, but that he had fourteen Men to guard him well armed: Hereupon the Sheriff went privately and consulted with the Landlady (who had the Reputation of an honest Woman, tho' her Husband was otherwise) how to manage in the taking of them. She, in pursuance of his Directions, while the Robbers were drinking and carousing late at Night, poured warm Water into the Barrels of all their Carbines and Pistols, which soaked into the Powder, and rendered the Charges useless. Next Morning the Sheriff appeared with a strong Guard, and surrounded the House, while *Patrick* and his Associates, surprized at so sudden an Attack, fled to their Arms in a kind of Confusion, which increased the more as they found them of no Service. Thus they were all taken Prisoners, *Patrick* with fourteen of his Gang, and hanged at *Dublin*, on *Wednesday* the 24th of *April* 1650, and afterwards he was hanged in Chains not far from the City.

The Hiſtory of Iriſh Teague, *alias* William Macquire, *an* Iriſh *Robber.*

WILLIAM MACQUIRE was born near *Athenree* in the County of *Galway*, and by Report (tho' without any ſolid Foundation, for he gave him no ſchooling) was the Begotten of an *Iriſh* Prieſt, who took Care and provided for him till he was ſixteen Years of Age, in the nature of a poor Boy or Servant; but the Prieſt dying, and *Macquire* being by Nature vitiouſly inclined, fell into bad Company, and loſt all the good Impreſſions of his Education and Religion, retaining nothing but the Brogue on his Tongue, which he could never wear out tho' it underwent a long Courſe of *Engliſh* Exerciſe. At about 20 Years of Age he arrived in *England*, and ſoon got into a Gang of Thieves, among whom he was known by a Number of Names, as *Macquire*, *Baily*, *Iriſh Teague*, &c. but in the firſt Attempt that he made at Houſe-breaking, he diſcovered as great a Capacity for that Undertaking as ever the great *Charles Dempſey* did for Horſe-ſtealing.

For having made a Combination with three other Rogues, they broke into a Gentleman's Houſe at *Brentwood* in *Eſſex*, and binding all the People, took away four Diamond Rings, a great Quantity of Plate, and about 60*l.* in Money. This was the firſt Attempt, and tho' he had but three to aſſiſt him, they over-powered a matter of ten Men and Boys without making any Diſturbance, and tied them every one in ſuch a man-

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ner that one could not relieve another, by which Means *Teague* and his Gang had sufficient Time to make off.

After this *Macquire*, with one Assistant, broke into Chancellor *Jeffry*'s House at *Westminster* and stole the Purse and Mace, which he made his Comrade carry on his Shoulder thro' the Park, to the House where they lodged, and then locked them up in his Closet; but some of the Jewels that were in the Purse happened to fall out in the Chamber, and *Macquire* being gone into the Country, the Landlord, in his Absence, had Occasion to go into the Room, where finding the Jewels on the Floor, it gave him a strong Suspicion of the Roguery, upon which he broke open the Closet Door and found the Mace, which he restored to the Chancellor, withal telling him how he got it, for which he was rewarded. *Macquire* hearing what had happened, took Care to shun his Landlord's House for above a Quarter of a Year after, till at length finding an Opportunity (and for sake of Revenge) he broke open his House, and robbed him of Money and Goods to the Value of eighty Pounds, and secured them for his own Use. Now *Teague*, scorning to be a House Robber any longer, thinking it too mean an Employment, resolved to begin to try his Fortune on the Highway; and stealing an Horse from Counsellor *Thurshby* in *Burleigh-street* on the *Strand*, and a Pair of Pistols from *Robert Williams* a Goldsmith, in *George-yard*, *Westminster*, with which Accoutrements being completely equipped, his first Attack was upon *Alexander Oldysh*, a diminutive Son of the Muses, both in Wit and Stature, who was frequent in paying Visits to a Doxey near *Hammersmith*

merſmith for a Bit for his Cat: being Pot-valiant, when *Macquire* ſtopped him, he aſked him with a haughty Voice, how he durſt ſtop any Son of the *Muſes* on the Highway, it being not only an Affront to him, but to *Apollo* and the ſacred *Nine*. *Teague* hearing him uſe ſuch lofty Language, which he did not well underſtand, began to ſtare at him, and ſaid, *What the Devil ſort of a Son is dat; a Son of the Muſes? By my Troth af you'll call yourſelf a Son of ſome outlandiſh Bitch, I'll not miſ-doubt you; but whor all dat, and by Shaint* Patrick *I dou't care a Thurd for you,* nor Pollo, *nor e'er a Son of a Whore in the whole Worl; ſo come, deliver your Monies, or I'll be after ſending you to Hell with the Shot is in this Piſtol.* After *Oldyſh* had given a great many Flouriſhes with his Sword, he was oblig'd to give *Teague* Three-pence Halfpenny, that being all the Money he had about him; but *Teague*, not being ſatisfied therewith, took away the Poet's Sword, the Loſs whereof threw him into a Fit of Sickneſs that had like to have coſt him his Life.

Another Time, meeting with the Lady *Overquerque*, as ſhe was returning from *Bath*, ſlenderly attended, he firſt deſired her to lend him what Money ſhe had about her, thus, *Madam, af you will lind me what Monies you have about you, becauſe I have Buſineſs wid it To morrow, reckon it out here, and I will give it you again the firſt Plaas I will meet you.* The Lady hefitating a While, ſays *Teague* again, (tho' he could neither read nor write) *Madam, af you doubt my Word, I will give you my Bond.* To which the Lady anſwered, *Here is never a Scrivener. By my Shoul,* ſays *Teague, I will maak one my ſhelf, but you muſt let me count the Monies firſt.* The Lady replied, *This is not lending,*

but

but robbing. *Teague* answered, *By my Shoul and Shalvation, Madam, I am a Stranger upon the Country, and I want Monies, and what's dying good for; af you lend it to me, I won't give it to you again, and af I rob you, I will keep it, and that's all the Difference I make between robbing and borrowing; and so, Madam, give me your Monies quickly, either one Way or the other, or I will be very unruly wid you.* Whereupon, presenting his Pistols, she gave him a Purse of Gold, a Gold Watch, and two Diamond Rings.

After this, meeting with a Lieutenant of the Army near *Uxbridge*, he bid him stand and deliver, or he was a dead Man. The Officer, surprized at such Usage, told him, that he never knew a Highwayman rob any of his Coat, because they hazard their Lives in Defence of their Country. *By my Shalvation,* says *Teague, I don't caar a Ha-penny for one Man above anoder; and besides, you sort of Gintlemen will fight more for the sake of the Women and the Ladies, nor you would for your King or your Country, af you were not well paid for it. Let me see how you will fight for your own Honour now; for, by my Troth, your Tongue shan't secure your Purse.* The Lieutenant, startled at this Speech, gave him six Pounds, out of which *Teague* returned him ten Shillings back, to bear his Charges.

But afterwards, meeting with Captain *Shooter* on *Hounslow Heath*, he demanded his Money; but the Captain making a stout Resistance, a bloody Battle ensued, but at last *Teague* shot him thro' the Head and got the Victory, then stripp'd him of fifty Guineas and a Watch, with which he made off. But (the Tevil growing ashaam'd with him

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at laſt, as he does with Numbers of my Countrymen in *London*) he was ſhortly after apprehended, and hanged at *Tyburn*, with *William Selward*, his Companion, and eight others, on *Friday* the 1ſt of *May*, 1691.

The Life of Richard Balf, *a moſt notorious Murderer and Highwayman.*

THE reputed Father of *Richard Balf* was a Pedler, tho' but of ſmall account, who, with his Wife, was accuſtomed to travel to Fairs and Markets up and down the Country, in pretence of getting Bread; but, as the Story goes, having learned all the Artifice of Canting, they got more by begging and cheating than by fair dea'ing; and at length, by thieving and robbing, made a ſhift to obtain the Favour of an Hempen Necklace, which eaſed them of all their Care, and was adminiſtered to them by their Son *Dick*, for robbing and murdering, in Manner following. Having caſt their Eyes upon a lone Houſe in the Country, wherein it was reported the Owner kept a conſiderable Sum of Money, they had an itching Deſire to be at it; and accordingly one Night, having laid their Scheme, (with their Son *Dick*, not above fifteen Years of Age, and one more, who was to aſſiſt them) they entered the Houſe by ſome Stratagem, and the Family being faſt aſleep, they thought it the ſafeſt Way to diſpatch them; ſo beginning with the Servant-maids, they cut both their Throats with a Kniſe, then going

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to the Servant-man, serv'd him the same Way, and also three Children, who lay in a Room adjoining; lastly, proceeding to the Apartment where the Master and Mistress lay, they thought it would be convenient to make them confess where their Treasure lay; and consulting what Method to take for that purpose, it was resolved to put the Man to the Torture; but his Answers not satisfying the Robbers, they dispatched them both, and fell to plundering the House. When they had gathered together all the Booty they could find in the House they marched off; but as it commonly happens that Murder is found out by one Means or other, so this was happily discovered by the Murderers disagreeing among themselves about dividing the Spoil.

Dick and his Parents were all taken up and put into Prison, try'd and convicted of Murder; but so it fell out, that the Judge, taking Compassion of the Boy's Youth, and no Hangman to be had, that the Son was granted his Pardon on account of executing his Father and Mother. It was *Dick*'s Comfort, when they came to the Gallows, to hear them say before all the good Company, *That they had rather be hanged by their Son than any Body else, because they made no doubt but he would use them as kindly as he expected shortly to be used himself*; which being the dying Words of his Parents made him very careful to tie the Ends of the Rope fast, to dispach them the more speedily and surely.

Dick having seen the Exit of his Parents, was very much discouraged, for a good While, from following their Practices, and proposed going to Service for an honest Livelihood; but no body being willing to receive him on account of their

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Exaltation, and Time alſo having worn out the good Impreſſions that were made in his Mind on that Occaſion, *what was bred in the Bone, began to appear once more in the Fleſh*; ſo he betook himſelf to picking of Pockets, till being ſo often in a Chair and ducked in a Horſe-pond (which was a Sort of Puniſhment then uſed for ſeveral Kinds of petty Larceny) that he grew tired of that Calling, and enliſted himſelf into a Gang of *Satyrs*, who make it their Buſineſs to ſteal all Kinds of Cattle that come in their Way. It would be ſurprifing to hear of all the Methods theſe *Satyrs* have of conveying Cattle away in the Night: But, however, this Trade was attended with ſo much Trouble, and not anſwering his End, that *B——f* ſoon grew tired of it, and became a *Cygaret*, whoſe Buſineſs it is to cut off the Skirts of a Coat, Gown, or Pocket, or any other Part of a Garment that hangs looſe, when People are at their Devotion in any publick Aſſembly: Which not anſwering neither, he entered himſelf into a Gang of *Grumets*, who, either by ſcaling Walls with Rope Ladders, or creeping in at Holes and Windows in the Night, rob Houſes privately. It happened one Night that, *Dick* being on an Exploit of this Kind, he found a conſiderable Booty of Plate and other valuable Things, worth at leaſt 150*l.* which he let fall into a Blanket, held by his Comrades, at the Bottom of the Window, to receive the Plunder. He had but two Comrades, and they, being Brothers, ſeeing ſo valuable a Prize in a ſmall Bulk, concluded to keep it to themſelves, and leave *Dick* to take Care of himſelf; and accordingly, taking away the Rope Ladder, they made off with

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the Prey, and left *B——f* to come down as he could. *B——f* ſeing himſelf outwitted, could not tell what to do, till obſerving there was a [illegible]ead in the Room but newly corded, he cut the Cord with as little Noiſe as poſſible, and faſtening one End of it in the Room, he let himſelf down into the Street: He was no ſooner on his Feet but he began to meditate Revenge, and immediately poſted away to their Place of Rendezvous, telling his Comrades they were all diſcovered, and the People whom they had robbed were in hot purſuit of them, juſt at his Heels. Before the Words were well out of his Mouth they run away helter ſkelter, and left all the Booty, both Money and Plate behind them; but *Dick* had the Wit to ſtay, and ſecure it for his own Uſe, and would never give any Part thereof to his Comrades after.

When he had got ſo much Inſight and Experience in this Buſineſs as to make himſelf a complete Maſter, he goes next into a Crew of *Wool-combers*, whoſe Buſineſs is to ſnatch Hats, Cloaks, Wigs, and Womens Handkerchiefs, *&c.* off in the Night; but at length being taken in the Fact in *Galway*, by a Gentleman, who purſued him and overtook him with a Sword drawn in his Hand, he was committed to Gaol, and burned in the Hand for the ſame Offence.

This Buſineſs not anſwering his Purpoſe, he took up up a Reſolution to commence Highway Robber; but being a little at a Loſs for a good Nag to mount himſelf on, he contrives to get one in this Manner: He obſerved there was a Neighbour of his Landlord's in *Galway* that had a very well bred Gelding of a good Size, very fit for his Purpoſe, and that there was no obſtacle to hinder him

him from ſtealing it but the Stable Door, which was ſtill kept locked; to remove this Difficulty, he went to an old Comrade of his, whom he knew to be an expert Pick-lock, and agreed with him to open the Stable Door the next Night, at an Hour that was fixed. A heavy Shower of Rain favouring *B——f*'s Deſign, he carried with him four old coarſe Stockings, and putting a little Hay into the Feet of them, drew them on the Horſes and led him ſaddled and bridled thro' the Gate-way, without making any Noiſe. As ſoon as he had got the Horſe into the Street (without ſtaying to take off the Stockings, which he thought would ſoon be torn off with riding, in which he gueſſed right) he mounted and made off, without taking Leave of any Body, having taken Care to provide himſelf with a good Caſe of Piſtols and a Cutlaſs beforehand, but never thought proper after to enquire what Time the Owner miſſed his Horſe, or what Search he made for him.

Thus accoutred, and well mounted on a good Nag, he rid all Night till he came to the Houſe of one of his Acquaintanee near *Athlone*, where he lay concealed with his Horſe till the next, reſolving not to make his publick Appearance till he got a good Diſtance from *Galway*.

He then moved to the North, and began his new Trade with *Stand and deliver*, as is uſual with Men of his Rank, and had ſuch wonderful Succeſs in his Enterprizes in robbing Paſſengers on the Road, that above fifty Travellers had been compelled to deliver him their Purſes, of conſiderable Value, in ſix Months time, which made the People ſo timorous, that they carried no Money about them, except travelling Charges; by which Means

Means *Dick* often met with Disappointments, which enraged him to that Degree that in Revenge, as he called it, he neither spared Man, Woman nor Child that fell in his Way.

Such Disappointments made him think it necessary to change his Quarters for a While; and, accordingly, having fixed his Places of Rendezvous, he scours the other three Provinces with the like Success, and thought the whole Nation scarcely large enough to furnish him with Occasions; and, like Death, never took any Denial till he was satisfied.

One Day, as he was hunting in quest of his Game, he met the Earl of *D——l* between *Ballyshannon* and *Sligo*, passing in his Coach, and having surprised and made the Servants Prisoners, he rode up to the Earl, expecting a large Booty, but finding he had no more than 150 Guineas about him, *B——f* was very much dissatisfied at it, and ordered him to draw a Bill of 60*l.* on a certain Goldsmith in *Dublin*, to ransom his Coach Horses from being killed: As soon as *Dick* received the Bill (leaving the Servants tied) he cut the Harness and made what Speed he could to *Dublin*, where he received Value for the Note, without being apprehended.

He was so notorious for robbing on the Mount of *Barnsmoor*, that a Guard-house was built by Order of the Government in the Middle of it, to secure Passengers from being robbed by him; which was continually supplied with a Company of Soldiers, either from *Londonderry*, *Colerain* or *Belfast*.

This being *B——f*'s head Quarters at that Time, he was obliged to shift; so moving towards *Lorras*,

Lorras, he finds new Quarters; where, one Day meeting with Gen. *In——y*, tho' he had ſeveral Attendants waiting on him, *Dick* reſolutely rode up to him and commanded him to ſtand and deliver; but the General refuſing to obey his Orders, a ſharp Engagement began betwixt them: The General drew out a Piſtol, but before he could have it ready his Horſe was ſhot under him; the Piſtol in his Hand went off in the Fall without doing any Harm, and *B——f* took Care to ſecure the other: The Groom was the firſt that came to aſſiſt his Maſter, who ſeeing him in ſuch Danger, went up reſolutely, thinking to ſeize on *Dick* and hold him till his Fellow Servants came to his Aſſiſtance; but, poor Fellow, he had the Misfortune to be ſhot dead on the Spot in making the Attempt. The General ſeeing his Horſe and Man both dead, and *B——f* continue his Reſolution to conquer or die, conſented to let him take eighty Guineas, a Diamond Ring and a Gold Watch, with which he rode off, and left the General to ride the Groom's Horſe.

Not for this Action alone, but for ſeveral full as bold and daring, *B——f* by this Time was become ſo notorious, that a Reward of 500*l.* from the Government, by Proclamation, was offered for the taking of him: This encouraged ſeveral People to join themſelves in Parties to go in queſt of him; but he being timely informed of it, employed ſome Spies whom he kept in Fee, to give him always Notice before hand of their coming out. Accordingly one Morning, as he ſat by the Fire, in one of his Houſes of Rendezvous, he had Notice that nine Men were in purſuit of him, and that they were very near, intending

intending to search that House. *B—f* not knowing which Road was safest to take, was resolved once more to stand and fight for his Life, but withal not without having Recourse to some Stratagem. Then having exchanged Coats with the Man of the House who was his Confident, he ordered him to go out at a back Window and hide himself in a Barn behind the House, just as the Men came before the Door. The Fellow acted his Part so well, that they saw him go thro' the Window, and likewise in at the Barn-door, where he took Care to hide himself effectually by going under some Straw, where there was a Communication made under Ground between the House and the Barn: In the mean while, *Dick* was so well fixed in his Fortifications, that he might have shot ten Men without receiving any Harm.

When the Pursuers saw the Man (whom they took for *B—f*) enter the Barn, they went directly to it, setting a Guard to the Door, while the rest examined the Outside, for fear he should escape out at any Window or private Hole; but finding no such Place, they all came to the Door, resolving upon a thorough Search. When they had searched a long Time to no purpose, they began to move a great Heap of Straw from one End of the Barn to the other, big with Hopes of finding what they came for, leaving only two to watch the Door. While they were thus employed, *B——f* comes unawares, in Disguise, upon the Centinels, first discharging a Piece upon them, and then drawing his Sword, which terrified them so much that they fled to the further Side of the Barn for Fear, while he shut the Door upon them, and fastened it so secure that it was impossi-

impoſſible for them to get out without Help; and when he had done ſet Fire to the Barn, mounting his Horſe and away, and bid them get out as well as they could.

After this he began to be more and more afraid of ſtaying in his own Country; ſo fleeing to *Donaghadee*, a Sea port Town in the North of *Ireland*, he took ſhipping, and landed at *Port Patrick* in *Scotland*; where meeting with an handſome agreeable Landlady he picked up an Acquaintance with her, which gave Occaſion to her Huſband to be jealous, who, in Revenge, underſtanding well enough what he was, cauſed him to be ſeized and ſent over to *Ireland* again: He was brought pinioned thro' all the County of *Dublin*, and committed there to *Newgate*, and ſhortly after was tried and condemned. While he was under Sentence of Condemnation he offered five thouſand Pounds to ſave his Life; but the Government was not to be bribed to ſave a Rogue from the Gallows, ſo he was ordered to die, and accordingly hanged he was at *Dublin* on *Friday* the 25th of *May*, 1702, aged 29 Years, and then hang'd in Chains on the Mount of *Barnſmoor* in the Province of *Ulſter*.

Jack Balf and his Brother (of the ſaid Family) were born ſome Miles from *Dunlavan*, on the Mountains of *Wicklow*: *Jack* was put Apprentice to a Stocking Weaver, but was never ſuſpected of Miſbehaviour till after his Brother's Sutpenſion on the three-legg'd Tree at *Stephen's-green*, ſoon after which he made an Alteration in his Buſineſs, and turned Surveyor of the high Roads without Licence: And as he had been bred on the Mountains, he firſt choſe *Tallow* Road, as it lay next to his inacceſſible Lurking-places in that Country,

where he committed such a Number of Robberies on Passengers as put all the Nation in Dread of him: But his Manner of robbing a certain most eminent Council being so very singular, I thought proper not to omit it here.

The Counsellor had been in *Dublin* all *Michaelmas* Term, where having fleeced a great Number of Geese, was about returning home to *Munster* with the Feathers, a little before *Christmas*; of which honest *Jack Bal*f having previous Intelligence, contrived the following Project in order to become a Partner with the Lawyer, which he luckily effected near *Blessingtown*, as follows. When *Jack* had Notice that the Lawyer, with sundry other Gentlemen, had left *Dublin*, attended by several Servants all armed, for the protecting their Store, he placed himself at a private House near the Road till they passed by, then having plunged his Horse into Water, and wet him all over, he mounts, and gallops after the Company, and soon overtook them with Hat in Hand, puffing and blowing as if he and his Horse had rode at that Rate a dozen Miles; upon which he immediately enquires for the Council, alledging, that he had an extraordinary Case to lay before him, and said that he had followed him Post Haste from *Dublin*, where he missed of him by coming in too late the Night before. Having thus deceived the Company, and appearing like a Gentleman, he was introduced to the Lawyer, whom he presented with a Fee of six Guineas, earnestly desiring him to hear the Case out of hand, for he would be satisfied with the Opinion of no other; then he pulls out a Paper touching the State of his Case, which, as it required privacy,

cy, he prevailed on the Council to ride ſlowly for a While, till it was read to him; in the mean Time the reſt of the Company went on, and left them behind, which as ſoon as *Jack* perceived, and a convenient Place offering, he draws out a Piſtol, claps it to his Lawyer's Breaſt, and demands his Money, which, it ſeems, was very conſiderable. The Lawyer, aſtoniſhed at this ſudden Change of Behaviour, began to heſitate, like a young Orator at the Bar, to prolong Time; but *Jack* wanted no Triflings, *Deliver, or Death*, was the Word; and ſo the Lawyer gave him a Purſe of three hundred Pieces of Gold, upon which *Jack* took his Leave of them all, and flew directly to the Mountains, where they thought to purſue him; but the Day being ſhort, and *Jack*'s Roads impaſſable for Strangers, they went on homeward, where having arrived, the Council peruſed his Folio's till the following Term, and then returned to *Dublin*, where he had the Pleaſure, a few Month's after, of ſpeaking a good Word for honeſt *Jack* at the Bar, who, by the general Voice of Court and Country, was voted to the Care of the Finiſher of the Law, and accordingly executed at *Stephen's green*, aforeſaid, where his Brother had been exalted to the ſame Dignity but a ſhort While before.

B—y's Dwelling Houſe remains to this Day on the Side of the Mountain near *Ballimore*, it contains 2 Rooms, and is ſituate in a Scrub on the Side of a Hill, environed with Rocks, which makes it difficult of Acceſs, even to thoſe that know it; and being thatch'd with Heath, under the Cover of Trees, is not to be ſeen at any Diſtance, tho' one may ſee from thence the whole Countryon all Sides.

The History of James Butler, *a notorious Highwayman, Robber and Murderer.*

JAMES BUTLER was bred and born in *Kilkenny*, and in his Pupilage was kept pretty much to School; but his Learning did him little Service, tho' he spoke *Latin* pretty fluently. When he arrived to Man's Estate he inlisted himself a Soldier in Lord *Galway*'s Regiment, and went with the Army to *Spain*, where they had not been long before he deserted to the *Spaniards*, as his favourite Party; but meeting with some Usage among them that he did not relish, he soon grew sick of a military Life, and gave the *Spaniards* the Go by also. Thinking himself in Danger in *Spain*, and not finding a convenient Opportunity of returning home, his Fancy led him into *Andalusia*, where he set up for a Mountebank, and had such wonderful Success in raising his Reputation and performing Cures, that at length he undertook a Method of easing the Men of troublesome Wives, who were taken to him by Wholesale, and this brought more Grist to his Mill than any other part of his Practice. So great was his Fame at last, that he entirely out-vied the famous Doctor *Thornhill*, who offered to be his Merry Andrew, upon Condition that he would teach him his *Irish* Assurance. But whether *Thornhill* did it to get rid of his Competitor or not, I can't tell; however, it happened that he was discovered, and to prevent Danger made the best of his Way to *Venice*, where he set up for a Conjurer;

Conjurer; but not managing this Buſineſs ſo well as the former, Succeſs failed him, and he joined with a Company of *Banditti* (a Kind of Highwaymen, ſo called in *Italy*.) While he was in this Company, they had the good Fortune one Morning to meet with a luſty, fat Mendicant Fryer, whom they robbed, taking from him to the Value of 20,000*l.* which he was going to carry to *Modena*, for the late Widow of King *James* II. Queen Dowager of *England*; but the Captain of of the Gang dividing the Booty, ordered *B——r* but a very ſmall Part, not half his Proportion, which ſtomached him ſo much, that he left them and went to *Florence*, and by this Time had learned to ſpeak both *Spaniſh* and *Italian*. While he was at *Florence*, his Curioſity led him to go and ſee a Man executed, where he ſingled out a young Gentleman with whom he had ſome Conſabulation; and, among the reſt of his Diſcourſe, he ſaid, *The Man was a Fool for ſuffering himſelf to be taken.* At theſe Words, the Gentleman taking him for a Man of Reſolution, carried him to a Tavern, and, having ſounded him pretty well, offered him five hundred Pieces of Gold to murder an Uncle of his, that he might enjoy his Eſtate. *B——r* aſſented to the Propoſal, and went immediately to one of the *Banditti*, with whom he agreed concerning the Manner of the Murder; and taking him along with him, about eleven o'Clock at Night, to the old Man's Houſe, they made a quick Diſpatch of his Life. This being done, and the Reward paid them, as ſoon as *B——r* got a convenient Opportunity, he likewiſe put an End to the young Man's Life, to prevent him from diſcovering; and, for the ſame Reaſon, in

a little Time afterward he murdered his Comrade in like manner.

But having thus committed three Murders, the Rumour whereof spread far and near, he grew a little afraid of his Mother's Calf Skin, and fled directly to *Paris*, where he soon found Means to introduce himself into *Cartouch*'s Gang, with whom he often went out in quest of Prey; but they not always distributing the Booty equitably, as he thought, he adventured to go out one Morning alone, and, in his Survey, having Notice of a young Gentleman of *Champagne*, who came to *Paris* on purpose to study, he met him and accosted him, pretending to be a Scholar also, and then taking him to the College of *Navarre*, he led him thro' the Walks, in pretence of entertaining him with some new Discourses, till they came to a remote Corner, and then he robbed him. But beginning to grow too notorious in *France*, and not over-well liked by his Comrades neither, he packed up his Awls and went into *Holland*; and, in his Travels, overtaking a genteel young Woman near *Rotterdam*, he began to make Love, and grew very sweet upon her: She seemed at first coy, but after some Discourse had passed, and upon further Application, she grew more familiar, and agreed to pass for his Wife, and lie with him that Night, upon Condition not to meddle with her without her Consent; to which he agreed, and gave his Oath to perform the Obligation: However, not being able to reach the *Hague*, they stopped short at an Inn on the Road, where, after Supper, the young Lady retired with her Landlady into the Bed chamber, leaving her pretended Husband and the Host in Company

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together, who drank pretty heartily, the one for Joy of his expected Pleaſures, and the other for ſake of his own Intereſt, till *B——r* grew ſomething mellow; at length he went to Bed, where he found his Miſtreſs, according to his Heart's Deſire, with whom he ſpent great Part of the Night in Carouſes and Embraces, till at laſt, being fatigued with the Exerciſe of Love, and overwhelmed with Wine, he fell faſt aſleep. As ſoon as his ſuppoſed Wife ſaw Day Light (and perceiving how ſecure he lay) ſhe aroſe, and calling for her Huſband's Portmanteau, under pretence of getting ſome Linen, took out of it about three hundred Pieces of Gold; this being done to her Liking, ſhe ordered the Hoſtler to ſaddle her Huſband's Horſe, for her to go and pay a Friend of hers a Viſit, but took Care to ride oft, and let none of them hear any more of her afterwards. When *B—r* awakened, he threw his Arms about, expecting to graſp his dear Miſtreſs; but finding himſelf diſappointed (in order to make Enquiry about her, and to know the Time of Day) he called for his Landlord, who told him, *His Lady was a very early Woman, for ſhe had rid abroad three or four Hours before:* Surprized at this News, *B—r* ſtarted up, and ran to his Portmanteau, which, when he had ſearched, he immediately found how finely he was tricked; yet could he not find in his Heart to aſperſe her, or much to blame her himſelf, becauſe he lived by tricking. However, thus outwitted as he was, he ſold his Lady's Horſe, and having paid his Reckoning, with the Remainder of the Money he made the beſt of his Way to *England*, where *Fortune* forſaking

him, the Lady *Poverty* came to pay him a Visit, and could never be perſuaded to abandon him till ſhe had brought him to a very low Ebb. Being reduced to this Condition, he happened one Day to pick up freſh Acquaintance with Mrs. *Impudence*, who accompanied him and two others to *King's gate* in *Gray's-inn-lane*, where they attacked and ſtopped a Coach, but finding a vigorous Reſiſtance, were obliged to retire in a Hurry, and ride off as faſt as they could: However, *B——r* was purſued, taken, and committed to *Newgate*; but being only found guilty of an Aſſault, for which he was fined 100*l.* he was kept in Confinement but twelve Months; yet in that Time he found Means to get a Woman or two with Child, who were put into Priſon for Debt. At length, procuring his Liberty, he fell to his old Courſes on the Highway, in Conjunction with one *Nades*, an Upholſterer's Son by *Fleet-ditch*; but they had not continued the Trade long before they were both taken at *Holloway*, and, being committed to *Newgate*, were afterwards hanged at *Tyburn*, in the Year 1716, *Nodes* being in the 26th Year of his Age, and *Butler* in the 28th, who was buried in St. *Andrew's* Churchyard, at the Charge of leud Women, who alſo ſupported him in Priſon.

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The Hiſtory of John Mulhoni, *a Highwayman.*

JOHN MULHONI was born in *Connaught*, but our Author (not being willing to expoſe his Family, which, on his Mother's Side, was of ſome Repute) has concealed both his Parents and the Place of his Birth: However, he informs us, that, being deſirous of an Employment, his Friends obtained for him the Queen's Letter, and put him aboard one of her Majeſty's Ships of War, in which he ſerved ſeveral Years in the *Mediterranean*, both about *Meſſina* in *Sicily* and ſeveral other Ports. Having quit this Veſſel, he went aboard a Privateer, in which he had very great Succeſs in taking Pirates, whereby he got a large Quantity of Money. Afterwards he had the good Fortune to be advanced to a conſiderable Poſt in another of her Majeſty's Ships of War, which was ſent into the *Baltic*, to obſerve ſome Motions in the North; but, upon the Return of the Fleet, he was diſcharged, with ſeveral others. Being out of Employment in *London*, he ſoon found out Ways of exonerating his Pocket of the Pay he had received for his Service, and returned into *Ireland* to viſit his Friends, in a very mean Condition, which gave them a Suſpicion of his ill Management, and cauſed them to take but little Notice of him. Diſguſted at ſuch Treatment, he ſought new Company, and ſoon became acquainted with one *Caheen*, a Gameſter, and perhaps not much richer than himſelf, who furniſhed him with Materials for the Highway; where,

where, in Conjunction with *James Carrick*, they committed a Number of Robberies; one in particular was on Mr. *Dillon*, of above 300*l.* who had that same Night broken the Bank at the Pharaoh-table, and another on *Richard Nutley*, Esq; in which last *Caboon* was taken, and afterwards executed. Upon this *Mulhoni* and *Carrick*, carrying with them about 50*l.* went up to *London*, where they set up for Gentlemen, and frequented the Play-houses and Drawing-rooms, like Persons of Distinction, till at length *Mulhoni* got acquainted with a rich Merchant's Wife on the *Strand*, who, out of stark Love and Kindness, supplied him from Time to Time with Money, to support him in his Extravagancies, for about a Year, till she died. During the Time of his Familiarity with this Gentlewoman, he picked up an Acquaintance with *Smith*, *Butler* and *Campbell*, whom he afterwards assisted in committing many Robberies on *Finchley Common* and other Places, till *Smith* and *Campbell* quarrelling about dividing the Prey, *Campbell* was killed in the Fray, which dissolved the Knot.

Then *Mulhoni* and *Carrick* picked up *Daniel Carrol*, as a Man fit and proper to make a third Person, being of a daring Spirit, and fit to undertake any Enterprize; and with his Assistance they robbed *Matthew Jencur*, Esq; in *Epping Forest*, from whom they took twenty Guineas, two Diamond Rings, and his and his Lady's Watches.

Soon after this they met with the *Cambridge* and *Huntington* Stage Coaches, which they found pretty well filled with Persons of Distinction, from whom they took a considerable Booty, and supplied themselves with Money enough to support

port their Extravagancies till *September* following, in the Year 1719, about which Time, finding their Stock pretty low, they took their Poſts on the high Road again, where meeting with the *Southampton*, *Saliſbury* and *Taunton Dean* Coaches, and not being able to accompliſh their Undertaking without Blows, during the Engagement ſome of the Company ſlipped aſide and raiſed the Country, who purſued our *Iriſh* Gentlemen ſo cloſe, for three Miles end ways, that they were within an Aim's ace of being taken, making their Eſcape with great Difficulty. This put *Carrick* into ſo great a Pannick, that he reſolved to forſake ſo dangerous a Way of Living, and adviſed his Partner to do the like; till *Mulhoni*, upbraiding him with Cowardice, ſaid, *Sink or ſwim I will go on with the Game, till I get Money enough to make a Figure in my own Country*; which occaſioned *Carrick* to alter his Intentions, and make a new League with his Comrades; ſo ſwearing upon the holy Evangeliſts to be ever true to one another, they proceeded, and took poſſeſſion of the Highway once more. But to be more private than before, they took a Lodging at *Wapping*, where they had not continued long before they pretended to have Buſineſs in *Scotland*, and were ſeveral times making a ſham Agreement with *Adrian van Stoken*, to carry them thither in his Veſſel: But, while this was in Agitation, they took Notice that a *Norway* Maſter lodged a Bag of 100*l.* in their Landlord's Hands, who was a Slop ſeller; and having obſerved where he laid it, they ſet their Heads together to contrive how to bring it off with the leaſt Danger; and, purſuant to their Agreement, they ſecured the Bag, which

they

they conveyed privately away by Night, and took new By-Lodgings about *Tothill-street* in *Westminster*.

But *Jonathan Wild*, who was likely to be the greatest Sufferer by this Action, offered a Reward of 20*l.* to take them for the Fact; upon which, not thinking themselves safe here, they removed to *Oxford*, where *Carrick* happened to see Dr. *Hoskins* in a Coffee-house, whom they had formerly robbed. Whether the Doctor knew him or not is a Query, tho' he asked him several Questions, as, *What Countryman he was? How long he had been in* England? and *Where he was going?* and the like: But *Carrick* hearing him say that he was going to the Vice Chancellor's, began to suspect that he was discovered, and made the best of his Way (as soon as he got an Opportunity) to his Companions, to whom he related the Story; upon which they all agreed to remove their Quarters with speed to *Coventry*, where they held a Consultation, to know whether they had best go home to *Ireland*, or return to *London* and pursue their old Courses. *Carrol* seemed positively bent to forsake his ill Courses, and to go back to *Ireland* among his Friends, but *Mulhoni* and *Carrick* over ruled him, and persuaded him to return with them to *London* again, where they arrived in a little Time: But the daily Instances of the Seizures of Highwaymen, and constantly hanging them, together with the small Favour *Irishmen* are shewed by *English* Juries, insomuch that it became a Proverb, *An* Irishman's *Name is enough to hang him*; I say, all these, considered together, discouraged our *Irish* Heroes so much that they no longer adventured to survey the high Roads on Horseback,

Horſeback, but bethought themſelves of a new Method of making Attempts, which was by attacking Paſſengers on Foot by Night in the publick Streets: and the more effectually to ſucceed in theſe new Enterprizes, they made it their Buſineſs to pick Acquaintance with the Servants of Perſons of Quality that attended at *Whitehall*, St. *James*'s, the *Smyrna*, *d'Offyndar* and other Chocolate-houſes, in order to learn of them where their Maſters generally ſpent the Evening, and to what Place they deſigned afterwards; and having received Information, they commonly took Care to Way-lay them, and make the beſt Hand they could of the Captures. By this, and ſuch like Stratagems, they ſeldom paſſed a Week whenever they were in Want without making ſure of ſome conſiderable Prize.

It was cuſtomary with them, when they met a Chair conveniently with any one in it, for two of them to ſtop the Men that carried it, while the third robbed the Gentleman; but when they made an Attack on a Coach with but one Servant behind, one was ordered to each Side, and to have an Eye to the Footman, while the third ſtopped the Driver till the Feat was performed. After this Manner they robbed a *Scotch* Gentleman, whom they had obſerved to receive a Sum of Money, in Gold, from a Banker near *Hungerford-market*; and after that a Lady in a Chair, within three or four Doors of her own Houſe, in *Park-place*, as ſhe was returning from paying the Counteſs of *Walſingham* a Viſit in St. *James*'s Palace, from whom they took a Purſe with ten Guineas, a Gold Watch and a Diamond Ring: Likewiſe, in the ſame Month, four Gentlemen in a Coach,

from whom they took two Silver Watches and Swords, and about 3*l.* in Money. Fourthly, on the 3d of *March* following, they robbed a Gentleman and three Ladies in another Coach, from whom they took about 20*l.* Value. The next they took into the Secret, as they called it, was an old Courtier, who had been visiting a young Lady in *Great Albemarle-street*, from whom they took a Diamond Ring and a Gold Watch, but no Money, the young Lady having prevailed on him to leave that with her.

The sixth Adventure was at *Marybone*, in *August* 1721, where observing that a Baronet, with but one Servant attending him, had received a large Purse of Gold, they dogged him in his Way Home to a Field, near the Border'd House, and took above two hundred Guineas from him, with some Silver, a Diamond Ring and a Watch, then giving the Silver to his Man, they padded the Hoof and made their Escape: However, the Gentleman advertised the Robbery, offering a larger Reward for the Watch, in the News-papers, than it could be sold for; upon which, they sent it privately to the Place appointed for receiving it, and got the Reward, without being asked any Questions.

The next Robbery they committed was in *December* following, (and this they fully purposed should be their last) when having moved their Quarters nearer to *Covent-garden*, in order to be less remote from the Gaming-tables in and about the *Little Piazza*, *Bow-street*, *Charles-street* and *Bridges-street*, they took Notice of a *Frenchman* of Quality, who lodged at a House on the paved Stones in St. *Martin's-lane*, that had stripped most

of

of the Adventurers at Hazard; upon this they followed him, about one in the Morning, till he came to the Corner of *Bedfordbury*, where ſtopping the Chair, they made the Men turn two or three Yards down a By-alley, and then robbed him of 230 Pieces of Gold, his Watch, Ring, Gold-headed Cane, and Sword, with which (hearing the Noiſe of Mens Feet behind) they took to their Heels, and made the beſt of their Way thro' *Roſe-ſtreet* to *Mulhoni*'s Lodging in *Hart-ſtreet*.

Tho' they were now put into a Condition of living creditably, yet we may obſerve, that by playing Cards, Dice, *&c.* and keeping Company with leud Women, they were reduced in a little Time to their primitive Condition, Poverty; and meeting one Night, accidentally, at the *Roſe* Tavern in *Bridges-ſtreet*, they began to conſult how they ſhould retrieve their Fortunes once more. The firſt Attempt they made afterwards was but in vain, having dogged two Gentlemen in their Chairs from thence into *Taviſtock-ſtreet*, to no purpoſe; but agreeing to meet again at the *Roſe* the Night following, they ſtay'd there till it grew pretty late, and then went out in queſt of Prey. As they were paſſing down *Little Queen-ſtreet*, they eſpied Eſq; *Young* in his Chair, which they cauſed to be ſtopped, in Manner aforeſaid, till they robbed him of forty two Pounds in Money, a Gold repeating Watch, a Cryſtal Snuff-box, and a Silver hilted Sword: But the Watch, hearing ſome Noiſe at a Diſtance, came up with ſpeed, and being informed of the Matter, purſued the Robbers ſeveral Ways, and *Mulhoni* had the Misfortune to be

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ſtopped by a Watchman, in the Paſſage near the Duke of *Newcaſtle*'s Houſe in *Lincoln's-inn fields*, as he was running away; but proving too ſtrong for the Watchman, he broke looſe and got from him, juſt as another Watchman was coming up with his Dog, which being ſet after *Mulboni*, he ſeized him in the firſt Quarter of the Field, and held him faſt till his Maſter and the other came up, who ſecured him in the Watch-houſe all Night: The next Day, being committed to *Newgate*, after ſeveral Examinations, he confeſſed the Robbery, and many others, impeaching both *Carrick* and *Carrol*, his Confederates and Countrymen; but that not excuſing him, he was proſecuted for the laſt Robbery, and hanged on the 18th Day of *July*, 1722, ſeeming very penitent according to the Principles of his Religion, dying a *Roman Catholick*.

The Hiſtory of James Carrick, *a Highwayman.*

WHEN a vicious Inclination is ſettled in the Nature of Man, no Education, no Learning, no Rules of Morality, are ſufficient to alter his Temper; and it will plainly appear that the old Proverb, *What's bred in the Bone will never out of the Fleſh*, was evidently verified in the Life of *James Carrick*, as follows.

He was born in *Dublin*, of very reputable Parents, his Father being a Jeweller by Trade, by which having got enough to maintain him, and

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(as he thought) to ſettle his Children handſomely in the World, he quitted the Buſineſs, after having obtained for his eldeſt Son a profitable Office in the Revenue, for the ſecond a Cornet of Horſe's Commiſſion, and for the third, our unhappy Maleſactor, an Enſign's Poſt.

The Enſign was about ſixteen Years of Age when he firſt entered into the Army, and at about ſeventeen he was obliged to accompany the Regiment he belonged to into *Spain*: During the Service of the Army there, he indulged himſelf in all the Extravagancies of the Country, rioting in Wantonneſs and Debauchery, which the Gaiety of his Temper and the Viciouſneſs of his Inclinations naturally led him into: But after a Concluſion of the Peace, beginning to be reduced for want of Pay, he went to *England*, where, thro' his natural Inclination to Vice, he ſoon became an extraordinary Proficient in Gaming, Whoring and Drunkenneſs; and notwithſtanding he was frequently ſupplied with Neceſſaries by certain Ladies of Pleaſure with whom he kept Company, yet he was many times reduced, and brought into want of Money to ſupport his Irregularities, often ſaying, *What was got over the Devil's Back, was ſpent under his Belly.* At length by frequenting Gaming Tables, thinking to better his Fortune, he became acquainted with one *Smith*, his Countryman, with whom he made an Engagement to take a Purſe on the Highway; but theſe two being young at the Sport, and not ſucceeding according to their Wiſhes, they afterwards joined with the aforeſaid *Butler*, an old Surveyor of the King's Highway, with whom they committed many Robberies on *Bagſhot Heath*, *Finchley Com-*

mon and *Hounslow Heath*, &c. by which they got so much Money, that they appeared in their Habits and Accoutrements more like Dabblers in Politicks, and Expectants of the Court, than Vultures that make a Prey of their Fellow Creatures; but before they had continued very long in this successful Game, *Butler* happened to be taken along with one *Nodes*, another Robber, and endeavoured to save himself by turning Evidence against *Carrick*; but this Offer was rejected because *Butler* was an old Offender, and *Carrick* became Evidence against both him and *Nodes*, who were both hanged, as before related.

By this Time, *Carrick*'s Friends hearing what Troubles he had brought himself into, by such ill Courses, entreated him in several Letters to return home; and his elder Brother was so kind as to promise to meet him, and conduct him safe to *Dublin*, and likewise to procure him a Place: But having tasted too much of the Town Pleasures, he could not think of forsaking a loose and debauched Life, for the true Felicity of a retired and solitary one; and so, notwithstanding all Dissuasions, he continued in and about *London*, committing many Robberies, till another of his Comrades being taken, he withdrew himself to *France* for more Safety. Here he also pursued the old Sport, but was soon apprehended, and, in all Probability, would have suffered only for an Officer that knew him in *Spain*, and made Interest to bring him off; which when he had effected, he likewise lent him twenty Pistoles to carry him to *England*, upon a Note drawn on his Brother, who, being advised of it, promised to pay it upon Advice from his Brother *James*; but

James

James (inſtead of acknowledging his Countryman's Kindneſs in ſaving his Life, or the juſt Debt, tho' the Payment was not a Farthing out of his own Pocket) utterly forſwore his ever being in *France*, or that he had lent him a Farthing; verifying the old Proverb, *Save a Thief from the Gallows and he'll cut your Throat.*

Continuing his ill Courſes, in Conjunction with *Mulhoni* and *Carrol*, for a conſiderable Time after, they aſſaulted and robbed Eſq; *Young* in a Chair, in *Little Queen-ſtreet*, between one and two o'Clock in the Morning, on the 1ſt of *July*, 1722, *Carrick* ſtopped the Chair, and clapping a Piſtol to Eſq; *Young*'s Breaſt, demanded his Money, while the others cried out, *Your Money, Sir, no Delays, don't triſle:* Thus they robbed him of 40*l.* in Money, and took from him his Sword and Snuff-box, worth 3*l.* each, and a Gold Watch worth 50*l.* But *Carrick* was taken on the *Monday* following in *Monmouth-ſtreet*, by *Whittington*, and his Aſſiſtant, a Servant to Mr. *Francis Brounker*, a Saleſman, as he was cheapening Cloaths up and down the Street, with Eſq; *Young*'s Snuff-box, Watch, and Purſe with ſeventeen Guineas and an half therein, in his Pockets; upon which he was committed to *Newgate*, and hanged for the ſame Fact along with *Mulhoni*, at *Tyburn*, on the 18th Day of *July* 1722.

During the Time he lay under Condemnation, he ſurpriſed all thoſe that came to ſee him, or to talk with him, by the Gaiety of his Behaviour, and the Uncopcernedneſs he ſhewed at his Condition. Notwithſtanding, Priſoners in the Condemned Hold live miſerably indeed! Their

Sighs are their chief Air, and the rattling of Chains their Musick, the Destruction of Vermin their Employment, and Death their sole Expectation. Here an insulting Turn-key, with a grim Aspect, makes them tremble with a Frown of his Countenance, and terrifies them more than if they were really going to the Gallows in a Cart, (tho' the insulting Bravo forgets that it was his own Condition once;) In the Height of his Domineering he needs no Screw to his ill-favoured Face, to form an ugly Frown or a terrible Look, because it is impossible that he should look otherwise; and this so dejects the Spirits of miserable imprisoned Slaves, that one would think they have Hell in Epitome before them. Surely this might easily affright them into Repentance! tho' it often happens to the contrary, and hardens some to the highest Degree of Impiety. Thus we may observe, that during the Time this hardened Sinner lay under Condemnation, he shocked all that came to visit him by the Impudence of his Behaviour and Want of Remorse, telling all that spoke to him, *That tho' they paid Money to see him in* Newgate, *if they would take the Pains to go to* Tyburn *they should see him for nothing*. And notwithstanding the Industry of the Ordinary, and of some *Popish* Priests that went to see him (he pretending to be a *Roman Catholick*) none of them could perswade him to refrain from certain lewd Women then in Confinement, with whom he had formerly associated himself; yea, even immediately before Death, his Thoughts seemed to be more fixed on them than on Eternity.

At the Place of Execution, he looked about him, and smiled at all he knew there, giving himself

himſelf a kind of genteel Air in fixing the Rope about his Neck, and laughing and gigling all the While Mr. *Purney* was at Prayers, deſpiſing ſo much the ſinging of the Pſalm that is uſual upon ſuch Occaſions, that he could ſcarce be obſerved to chaunt it with any Melody; and as he conſtantly took Snuff during the Time of Prayer in the Chappel, and behaved not ſo reverently as could be deſired for a Man in his Circumſtances, even ſo at the fatal Tree he had continually ſome ridiculous Geſture or other, to amaze the Spectators, rather than to beg Forgiveneſs and exhort the People to take Warning by his untimely End.

In his Speech, he told the People, *That the Sheriffs of* London *and* Middleſex *had made an Order, that no Surgeon ſhould touch his Body*; but being wiſely told by the Ordinary, that *that* did not at all concern him, any thing like as much as the Safety of his immortal Soul, which he ſeemed but little to regard. To which he replied, *That he had received the Sacrament in his own way, and had prepared himſelf agreeable to his own Opinion.* But any impartial Reader may judge by his Conduct whether he was duly prepared or not to leave the World; for juſt as the Cart was driving away, he diſdainfully turned about *Mulhoni*'s Cap on his Head, and then pulling down his own turned off the Cart.

By this Behaviour, it may be obſerved how much the Devil had hardened his Heart, ſo that he would confeſs nothing to the Ordinary, altho' preſſed to it in the moſt moving Oratory that great Divine is capable of; yet he told ſome of his Friends, whilſt under Confinement, that *Mul-*

boni, one *William Lock*, then in *Newgate*, and he had robbed the Invalid belonging to *Chelſea* Hoſpital, as he was returning Home from the Camp, where he was ſent to light a Colonel, and that it was *Lock* that killed him, and ſtabbed him in ſeveral Places: He alſo told them, that, a little after that, they likewiſe robbed the Officer driving the Coach in *Piccadilly*, as he was going from the Camp in *Hyde-park* at one o'Clock in the Morning; and, in ſhort, that he had been an old Offender, and had committed many other Robberies, which he could not, or elſe would not diſcover.

The Hiſtory of Paul Lyddy, *a Gentleman Robber.*

PAUL LYDDY was born in *Munſter*, of very reputable Parents, who had him educated after a genteel Manner, by the beſt Maſters in the Country. He was a very handſome, well-ſet, young Man, about ſix Foot high, and every Way proportionable, and in Strength out-vied moſt of his Age in the Kingdom. But before he had well arrived to Man's Eſtate, it happened, very unluckily for him, that a Kinſman of his was taken by the Sheriff of the County upon an Execution, for a Debt of about 300*l.* *Paul* and his Brother having Notice thereof, and not conſidering the Danger, came, with other Aſſiſtants, to the Reſcue of his Relation, whom they carried away from the Bailifts by Force; but, in the Conflict,

Conflict, one of the Sheriff's Servant's happened to be killed, and himſelf wounded and much abuſed; whereupon Warrants upon Warrants were iſſued out after the Reſcuers, and great Rewards offered for taking the Leaders; which put them into ſo great a Pannick, that they made the beſt of their Way, and ſkulked about in Holes and Corners for a conſiderable Time, till having ſpent what Subſtance they had, and falling into bad Company, *Paul* and his Brother were prevailed upon to aſſiſt one *Matthews*, a very ill-minded Fellow, in ſtealing ſome Cattle, which they converted into Money, to ſupply their Neceſſities.

Thus, having entered the Liſts, they proceeded in their villainous Practices, till *Paul*, notwithſtanding his Gentleman like Education, became a notorious Robber and Cow-ſtealer, and at length was taken Priſoner with ſaid *Matthews*, and ſent to *Clare*, where they were confined in the County Gaol, and ſhortly after tried and found guilty, and condemned for the ſaid Facts. The Day after the Aſſizes happening to be the Fair Day of that Town, *Matthews*'s Wife begged of the Gaoler in the Morning to ſuffer her to carry ſome Victuals to her Huſband, who, ſhe ſaid, was almoſt famiſhed with Hunger; and having obtained that Privilege, ſhe likewiſe convey'd a File proper for the Purpoſe, with which *Paul* and his Comrade made a Shift to get off their Bolts and Neck-yokes, undiſcovered; as ſoon as they had done, they fixed themſelves in a convenient Poſture, and waited till the Gaoler came to examine whether all was ſafe (which he uſually did Night and Morning), and as ſoon as he unlocked the

Door,

and Morning) and as ſoon as he unlocked the Door, *Lyddy* knocked him down with his Bolt and took the Key from him, and then the two Criminals paſſed thro' the next Room, which was full of People, without Oppoſition, and *Lyddy* having ſnatched a Scimiter out of a Gentleman's Hand, he brandiſhed it about two or three times till all the People ran out of their Way, leaving them a clear Stage; and at length, having got quite clear of the Gaol, they came into the Street, where the People, all ſhewing the like Fear, ran out of their Way on all Sides, leaving *Lyddy* and *Matthews* to march thro' the Fair alone, which they did without Reſiſtance, flouriſhing with the Scimeter and Bolts till they got quite out of Danger.

After this *Paul* was very frequent in Robberies, going about the Country under the Character of a Hair Merchant or Pedler for ſome Time, but always behaved agreeable to his Education, more like a Gentleman than any of his Comrades, as the Sequel ſhall make appear; but he had the Misfortune to be often purſued, and was pretty well known in ſeveral Parts of the Country, tho' no ſingle Perſon dared to lay Hands on him, becauſe of his Strength and Activity, till one Morning, as he was going alone near *Ferbane*, he met a Youth walking out a fowling that knew him, and had heard that a Reward of 40*l*. was offered for taking him, upon which he ſtopped *Paul*, and preſented his Fowling-piece towards his Breaſt, withal telling him, if he refuſed to return with him to the Town, he would ſhoot him dead on the Spot. *Paul*, ſeeing the young Man's Reſolution, was obliged to march before him to the

Town

Town, while the Piece was ſtill kept at his Back, ready to fire upon the firſt Occaſion, if he refuſed to go: As ſoon as the young Man had got home, he immediately called for Aſſiſtance, and bound his Priſoner Hand and Foot, and conveyed him on Horſeback, with a ſufficient Guard, to the County Gaol in *Philipſtown*, where he continued till the following Aſſizes, and being tried for Facts committed in the County, was found guilty, and condemned the ſecond time to be hanged. He had no ſooner heard his Condemnation pronounced but he vaulted over the Rails of the Dock, tho' handcuffed and bolted, curſing both Judge and Jury all the While he was going from thence into the condemned Room, thro' which he found Means to break, and made his Eſcape the ſame Night; but the young Man recover'd his Reward from the County nevertheleſs.

After this he began to be talked of more and more, having joined with a large Company of the like Cattle, who were pleaſed to make him their Captain. The Company was divided into three Bands, either to act jointly or ſeparately, as Occaſion required; and tho' ſome of them were ſtill employed in one Part of the Nation or other, either in robbing on the Highway or ſtealing Cattle in the Night, yet they acted ſo cautiouſly that none of the Gang could be taken for many Months, tho' ſometimes no leſs than twelve Horſes have been ſtolen out of one Pariſh in a Night, and conveyed (as ſome think) to the North of *Ireland*, and from thence to *Scotland*. But neither Horſes nor Cows were thought a ſufficient Booty. As ſoon as Winter appeared, *Paul* was perſuaded by his Subalterns to appoint a Brigade of twelve of

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the moſt reſolute Fellows amongſt them, whom he was to command and direct in Perſon, as he thought convenient, and theſe were to plunder in the Night, and bring away all Kinds of portable Booty, to be diſpoſed of as the Majority of the Company ſhould agree to; for tho' they always allowed their Captain a Waiting man, yet in dividing the Spoil every Man was conſider'd according to his Deſert.

Robberies became ſo frequent all over the Nation, about this Time, that all the Country People, that could, were obliged to keep Arms, and watch in the Night; nevertheleſs thoſe Cormorants had ſuch Succeſs in plundering; that they found Means (by their own Confeſſion) to ſpend, at the Rate of an hundred Pounds a Man, *per Ann.* It can't be expected I ſhould give an Account of every Robbery they were concerned in, yet there is ſomething ſo particular, or ſomething ſo barbarous in what follows, that I cannot tell how to omit the Relation.

It happened one Night that four Men only were detached from their Place of Rendezvous, to go and rob a Farmer that kept a Malt-houſe in the County of *Longford*, who had laid by about 100*l.* to buy Bere in the Beginning of the Seaſon: The Walls of the Houſe were only Mud, and the good Man was abroad, and had left no body at home but the Wife, the Children and a Maid-ſervant, who, however, took Care to keep the Door well barred in his Abſence, ſo that as ſoon as the Robbers came to the Houſe, and finding the Door faſt, without further Ceremony, one of them forces into the Window, which being ſomething narrow, he ſtuck a While, and made ſo much

much Noiſe that the good Wife eſpied him, and, with the greateſt Preſence of Mind imaginable, cried out, James *bring the Muſket out of the Room, here's a Rogue breaking in thro' the Window.* The Rogues ſurprized at this, and not knowing but that *James* was really there, took to their Heels with the greateſt Precipitation in Life, and made off: But ſome Time after, their Leaders hearing how the Caſe was, upbraided them with Cowardice, upon which they left the Company in Diſguſt, and fixed their Quarters in the County of *Kilkenny.* Soon after this cowardly Action, they fixed upon robbing Mr. *Edward Johnſton*, an old Gentleman of good Repute in the County of *Weſtmeath*, to whoſe Houſe ten or twelve of them, well mounted, having repaired in the Night, in the Year 1725, the Captain ſtationed his Men, and gave them their Orders, but waited with thoſe that held the Horſes while the reſt rifled the Houſe: His Brother, three of the *Fitzgeralds*, —— *Roe*, and the aforeſaid *Matthews* were the firſt that entered, who (having ſecured all the People they met in the Houſe till they made a Search for the Money, but not finding what they expected) were ſo barbarous, that they bound Mr. *Johnſton* Neck and Heels, and laid his Poſteriors naked on the Fire, in order to extort a Confeſſion, and knock'd the good Woman down, and kick'd her into the Fire alſo; but not hearing of the Money from either, (for it ſeems there was not much then in the Houſe) they kept the poor Gentleman in Torture ſo long that he died in a ſhort Time after of the Abuſe; and 'tis probable they would have roaſted him to Death inſtantly, only that *Paul* (hearing what was doing) came to the Window, and threatened

threatened to knock their Heads together (which he was able enough to do) if they did not desist and use the old Gentleman better; but he spoke too late. There was hardly any Murder that had been committed for many Years before that was talked of with more Abhorrence, nor scarce any Gentleman could be more lamented: Yet this Knot of Rogues were so linked thro' one another by Blood and Affinity, that they could not be prevailed upon to discover, tho' a Proclamation was issued out, offering a large Reward to the Informer, besides the King's Pardon: Mr. *Johnston*'s Son also took Care to write to every Gaoler in the Nation, giving a Description of the Rogues that murdered his Father, expecting, if any such were taken, to prevail by offering a Reward; but nothing would do, till some Time after some of the Gang, with new Assistance, having robbed and plundered the House of Mr. *John Kelly* in the County of *Galway*, much after the same Manner, and stolen several Horses, the Justices in *Connaught* grew very assiduous in taking up and apprehending all suspicious Persons they could hear of; and at length two Fellows coming out of the County of *Longford* being taken up in the County of *Roscommon*, on Suspicion of Cow-stealing, whereof Mr. *Johnston*'s Son having Notice, by the Description he gave, one of them was found to be *Paul Lyddy*; upon this, Means were used to prevail with him to make a Discovery, which he did pretty fully for the sake of Pardon and the Reward, and most of his Accomplices concerned in the said Murder (except *Matthews*) were taken and committed to *Mullingar*, where they were tried, found guilty and hanged upon his Evidence.

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One might have thought that after this *Paul*, being pardoned, would nave been quiet; but as he was now become Maſter of the Trade, and loth to ſerve a Time to a new, he changed Quarters to the North of *Ireland*, where he became as frequent in Robberies as ever, and Travellers were afraid of paſſing *Newry* Mountains either by Night or by Day, except in large Companies; nay, it was currently reported that this new Gang of Robbers, which he joined laſt, conſiſted of no leſs than thirty-four Men, all well mounted and armed. But at laſt, after dealing pretty largely with the Devil, his Maſter having drawn out his Accounts, and finding upon Ballance that he owed *Paul* a pretty round Sum for his Service, was willing to clear off the Debt, and take a Diſcharge in full of all Accounts, ſealed with his Blood; which was brought about thus: *Paul* grew ſo notorious in the County of *Fermanagh*, that Spies were upon him in every Corner, and the Country were reſolved upon taking him; and it happened, that he and his Waiting Man having ſet up at an Inn thereabouts in the Evening, they were not long there before he was ſeized with a Trembling, which diſpirited him ſo much that he immediately applied to his Man for Advice, telling him how he was ſeized, and ordered the Horſes out inſtantly, which being done, ſays he, *Let us ride off directly, for I am very ſure there is ſome Miſchief before me.* And accordingly ſo it happened, for, as they were mounting, Captain *Crawford* rode up, and deſired to ſpeak two or three Words with the Gentleman, and having rid with him to the End of an Avenue hard by, he aſked him ſome Queſtions, and ſeized him faſt by the Collar,

lar, telling him he was the King's Priſoner: Then *Paul* took hold of the Captain in like manner, while *Paul*'s Man and the Captain's Man exchanged Shots without Damage; but *Paul*'s making off with Fear, the other aſſiſted his Maſter, and with much ado brought the Priſoner back about twenty Yards, where Aſſiſtance joined them, and they bound him and ſent him to *Omagh* Gaol, where the ſaid *Matthews*, one of his Companions, lay in Priſon before him; and this Companion's Wife, or Whore, being diſguſted at ſome ill Uſage ſhe had received, by his turning her off and courting a Fortune, ſhe turned Evidence, among others, ſo they were both found guilty, and, purſuant to the Judge's Sentence, hanged and quartered in the Year 1727; and *Paul*'s Head was put up on the Gaol, as a Terror to others, where it remained a long Time.

N. B. Paul, thinking to prevent his being hanged, when he found there was no Probability of making an Eſcape, took a ſtrong Doſe of Poiſon the Night before he was to be executed; yet he was quartered at the Gallows, purſuant to his Sentence.

John Lyddy, his Brother, was executed at *Ballinrobe*, for being concerned in a Robbery in the County of *Mayo*. This was ſhortly after that impudent Attempt on Brigadier General *Napper* in the North, who, riding to a Review, was ſurpriſed by three or four of the above Gang, with Piſtols in their Hands, and obliged to give them his Money, he being without Company, having left the Sight of his Servants, who were riding at ſome Diſtance before him, in the Year 1730.

The Life of Will. Peters, *alias* Delany.

ON the Borders of *Sleybloom* Mountains, in the *Queen's County*, lies a ſmall Country called *Upperwoods*, inhabited by ſeveral *Iriſh* Families, among whom the *Delanys* are not the leaſt numerous. This Family being related to ſome reputable Gentlemen in the County, of the ſame Name, took Occaſion from thence to think themſelves more ſecure from Danger, at the Time of Proſecution, than their Neighbours, becauſe Intereſt had been made by ſome of the Gentlemen on the Jury, ſeveral times, to make their Trials eaſy, by which Means they were often ſkreened from Juſtice. Such Gentlemen thought that Lenity, and the Influence they had over the poor Inhabitants of that Country, would rather prevent than excite them to proceed in their villainous Practices; but we may obſerve it had quite the contrary Effect, for one *Peter Delany*, near *Oſſory* in the ſaid County, had two Sons, *Will.* and *J—k*, and, as it is cuſtomary with my Countrymen to call the Sons after the Father's Chriſtian Names, they were called *Will. Peters* and *J—k Peters*. *J—k* was a Fellow but of a ſhallow Invention, yet his natural Inclination to Theft led him into this Way of Living, till he was tried at *Maryborough* and tranſported, for receiving and having a Hand in diſpoſing of ſtolen Cattle; but ſoon found Means of conveying himſelf back to *Ireland*, where he ſkulked in Holes and Corners till the Time limited was expired. He had been brought before Courts of Juſtice for

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ſeveral Miſdemeanors before, but by the Interceſſion of Friends was ſtill enlarged.

As ſoon as he adventured to appear publickly abroad, after his Return, he fell to his old Trade again, and by the Aſſiſtance of his Father, who was a noted Receiver, and a Concealer of Cow-ſtealers, followed the Practice of living on the Spoil of honeſt People, till he was apprehended the laſt Time, and led to the Gallows, where he made his Exit, before a numerous of People, at *Maryborough*, in the Year 1737. Old *Peter*, his Father, was not accuſed of ſtealing Cattle in Perſon, but was accounted one of the principal Receivers, and managed his Affairs after a very cunning Manner. A Neighbour of his, who had neither Wife nor Child, held by Leaſe a ſmall Piece of Land adjoining to *Peter*, and being accuſed of the like Practice, fled to the Country, and kept in ſome remote Parts of *Connaught*: During his Abſence, Care was taken by his Friends that the Rent ſhould be duly paid and Receipts taken, that the Property ſhould be preſerved and Poſſeſſion maintained. Now when any Cattle were conveyed to *Peter*, which they thought would be purſued, they were always driven on this abſent Neighbour's Ground, by which Means, if any of them were found (as it often happened) it could never be rightly proved in whoſe Cuſtody they were got. By this and ſuch like Craft, together with the Interceſſion of Friends, this *Peter* preſerved himſelf a long Time from condign Puniſhment, and remained a Nuſance to all honeſt People in the Country. But now to return to *Will. Peters*, and obſerve what Steps he took to get himſelf exalted.

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In his Youth he was put to School, and kept there, under the Tuition of an *Iriſh* School-maſter, as long as any intermitting Time from the Harveſt, and other Affairs of the Family permitted. He had read the Seven Wiſe Maſters, Don *Bellianis* of *Greece*, *Valentine* and *Orſon*, and *Reynard the Fox*, and was accounted on the Mountains a complete Scholard. The reading of *Reynard* gave him a Taſte of Politicks; but it was much to his Diſadvantage that he was not continued at School, at leaſt till he had paſſed thro' the Hiſtory of the *Seven Champions* and the *Deſtruction of Troy*; he might have underſtood the Feats of Knight Errantry, and advanced himſelf to the Dignity of a Highwayman; whereas, by ſtudying ſuch mean Authors as before mentioned, I don't find that he ever attempted any Thing more glorious than a petty Thief would have done, except what he learned from the great *Charles Dempſey*, who taught him to be an expert Horſe-nabber and Cow-ſtealer. After he had been taken from School ſome Time, his Father taking Notice that the Country People extolled his Son's Parts and Learning, was perſuaded to give him ſome better Education, in order to ſend him to *France*, and be put into Clerical Orders: Accordingly he was put to a new Maſter, to learn the *Latin* Tongue; he made ſome Progreſs for the firſt Quarter, but then, meeting with ſome Difficulties, he laid his Grammar aſide as ſoon as he had got thro' the Rules for the Genders of Nouns, and told his Father he had learned *Latin* enough. When any one uſed to aſk his Father how far he had learned, his uſual Anſwer was, to *Protia Maris*, which the Boys of the School getting hold of,

of they gave it to him for a Nick-name, and he retained it for a long Time. After leaving the School, he led an idle Life till he was near 20 Years of Age, frequenting no Company but Gamesters, and such like, all the While; till meeting with one who was a complete Player at Cards, he learned from him several Legerdemain Tricks, and soon after began the Trade of Cow-snatching, which he always followed after.

There happened about this Time a Girl to be whipped thro' the Town of *Maryborough*, for committing several Thefts, who, by the Severity of the Hangman, retained the Marks of the Lashes a long Time on her Back: After she was discharged, she made her Escape thro' *Montrath* into *Offory*, and at length coming to old *Peter*'s House in the Night, she made a very piteous Complaint, telling him, that she was Captain *P*——'s Daughter, and being courted by a young Gentleman, to whom her Parents would not give Consent to marry her, they kept her confined to her Room, and suffered her not to stir out by any Means, and that when she went to Bed her Cloaths were taken away, to hinder her from attempting to go out; and that rather than remain in this afflicting Condition, she resolved to make her Escape and travel the World round, begging Bread. Having resolved upon her Escape, she said, that she got a Bed Cord, and fastened one End, in the Night, to the Window, but that having no Cloaths on but her Shift (which it seems was very fine) in descending her back turned to the Wall, which had scraped all the Skin off of it; that she went afterwards to some of her Father's Tenants, to get something to cover her, who gave her those Rags

Rags ſhe had on, but dared not entertain her, for fear of her Father.

The old Fellow and *Will.* his Son, liſtened to her Story, which ſhe told in a very plauſible Manner, and, believing all ſhe ſaid to be true, took her in, and having got her Sores dreſſed as well as they knew how, gave her the beſt Entertainment they could afford, and in a little Time *Will.* began to make Love to her She ſeemed very coy at firſt, but at length, managing her Cards with Dexterity, conſented to marry any one rather than be found out by her Father. The Match being thus concluded, a Prieſt was ſent for privately, the Witneſſes ſworn to Secrecy, and the Marriage Ceremony performed without Interruption.

Before many Days had paſſed the Neighbours had a current Report among them, that young *Peters* was married to the Captain's Daughter, and would make his Fortune by it: Shortly after finding it was nothing but a Bite, they were for turning her off; but ſhe was no ſuch Fool; ſhe held her Grip, and would not quit her Claim till ſhe had received a ſufficient Reward; and, tho' ſhe gave her Huſband a general Releaſe, yet ſhe had the Impudence to make him a Preſent of a Lump of Fleſh, about the Size of a Baſtard, in leſs than three Quarters of a Year. After this Bite was put upon him, he was aſhamed to be ſeen by thoſe that knew him, and ſeemingly with drew for ſome Time; but, it ſeems, he was then beginning to make ſome Progreſs in his Trade, and had got acquainted with *Cabier na Gappul.* He was ſhortly after tried at *Athy*, for ſtealing three Cows, but no home Proof appearing againſt him,

him, he was only fined five Pounds, with half a Year's Imprisonment. About a Year after this he was taken in the County of *Carlow*, for stealing a Sorrel Horse with a bald Face and one white Foot, which being found in his Custody he was committed to *Carlow* Gaol, and the Horse was delivered, a few Days before the Trial, into the Gaoler's Custody. As soon as *Peters* had Notice of this, he sends one of his Confidents to *Dempsy*, with a full Description of the Horse, both as to Size, Colour and Marks, desiring him, if possible, to provide a Mare of the same Size, Shape, and Colour, *&c.* and convey her into the Stable where the Horse was kept, and make an Exchange, for he had no other Way to save his Life, because there was home Evidence against him. *Dempsy* was not long before he secured a Mare, which he sent by one of his Associates to *Carlow*, giving him Directions how to make the Exchange. When the Messenger got to *Carlow* he put up at a private Place near the Water Side, and made it his Business to get acquainted with the Hostler, and having fixed a Stratagem for exchanging, he stood, a Morning before the Trial, at an Alehouse Door by the Water Side, and, as the Hostler passed by, invited him in to drink; in the mean While, one of *Peter*'s Comrades took off the Collar and put it on the Mare, which was given to the Hostler at the Door as he came out, who mounted her, and rid her to the Stable, instead of the Horse. *Peters* had Notice of all this, and, on his Trial, when the Evidence had given Proof enough (one would have thought) to hang a dozen Men, he asked the Prosecutor whether his Beast was a Horse or a Mare? To which he answer'd

anſwered (according both to his Evidence that Day, and the Examinations given before a Juſtice) that it was a Horſe. *Well*, ſays *Peters* to the Judges, *My Lords, let this Horſe be produced, and if the Marks and Tokens agree to what has been ſworn againſt me, I have nothing to ſay againſt my ſuffering.* This was all fair, and the Beaſt being examin'd, every Thing appeared in the Plaintiff's Favour, till her Tail was lifted up, which diſcovered the Miſtake, and ſet the whole Court into a Fit of Laughter. *Peters* made ſeveral Motions for obtaining Satisfaction of his Proſecutor, for falſe Impriſonment; upon which the Court demanded a Character of each, and his Requeſt availed him nothing: However, he was acquitted for that Time.

In about ſix Months after, having ſtolen ſome fat Cows, and conveyed them into *Offery*, they were all killed, or ſafely diſpoſed of, except one new milch Cow, which his Family had need of; and rather than want her, he put his Wit to work and began to diſguiſe her. He had Notice the Owners were in queſt of her, and having no Time to loſe, he ordered the Cow to be tied up, and two large Loaves to be made; as ſoon as the Loaves were rightly ſodden in the Oven, they were clapped on her Horns hot, and held there till the Ends of them down to the Slug grew ſoft, with the Heat and Moiſture of the Bread; then he took off the Bread, and bent the Ends of the Horns inward, holding them in that Poſition till cold, which diſfigured the Cow ſo much that the Owner had no Miſtruſt ſhe was his, tho' *Peters* ſhewed her to him the next Day when he came there to ſearch.

Another Time, before *Chriſtmas*, he had driven home a red Cow, among others, that wanted half her Tail; this made her ſo remarkable, that neither he nor his Comrades durſt venture to diſpoſe of her alive, and ſhe was not in order for killing; upon this one of them provided the Tail of a red Cow that had been ſlaughtered ſome Days before in *Mountrath*, and making it of a proper Length, it was ingeniouſly ſtitched to the Stump of the red Cow's Tail, and ſhe was driven to *Rathdowney* Fair to be ſold. The right Owner of the Cow was at the Fair, and paſſing by, took Notice of her ſeveral times; and at laſt, coming up, aſked, *Who owned the red Cow?* To which *Will.* made Anſwer, *She'll ſoon find an Owner, if you have a mind to buy her. No,* ſays the other, *I have not; but I had a Cow ſtolen from me about four Days ago, as like this as any Thing in the World, only mine had a ſhort Tail; if it were not for that, I would take my Oath that this is my Cow. Why then,* ſays *Will. if you have any Miſtruſt, I'll give you my Oath ſhe's none of your Cow. You ſay yours had a ſhort Tail, don't you? Yes,* ſays the Man. *Why then,* replied *Will. this Cow can't be yours, for ſhe has a long Tail, and if you won't truſt your Eyes, I hope you'll believe it when you feel it:* Upon this, *Will.* took hold of the Tail in his Hand and with a ſharp Knife cut it off a little more than a Hair's Breadth above the joining: The End of the Stump being cut off, her Tail bled a freſh, which proved ſuch a convincing Argument on *Will*'s Side, that the People ſtanding by ſhouted after the Owner, who, being aſhamed at the Reproaches caſt on him, withdrew himſelf as quickly as he could; in the mean While *Peters*

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ſold the Cow to the firſt Bidder, and poſted home with the Money, for fear of meeting with a ſecond Challenge.

He was taken up after this in the County of *Kildare* for Practices of the like Kind, and being tried at *Naas*, ſeveral Facts were proved home againſt him. He was found guilty, and Sentence of Death, was pronounced againſt him, purſuant to which he was led out to the Gallows, where a numerous Concourſe of People met to honour him with their Company at his Departure from this World, expecting to hear him make a large Confeſſion; but in this Point they were deceived, for he ſeemed little concerned, making but a ſhort Prayer before the Halter was faſtened round his Neck, and then turning himſelf off the Ladder, he hung for the ſpace of ſixteen Minutes, till the Hangman cut the Rope and let him fall: He had Friends to attend him, who took Care to provide him a Coffin, in which he was conveyed to a Friend's Houſe about a Mile from thence: But about three Hours after they perceived that he breathed, and uſed all Endeavours to bring him to Life: He opened his Eyes and looked about him, and (as he acknowledged afterwards) knew thoſe round him, tho' he did not ſpeak: He was taken out of the Coffin, and conveyed in the Night to a private Thicket, not far diſtant; in the mean While the Coffin was filled with Hay and Stones, and, to deceive the People, was buried with the ſame Ceremony that his Corps would have been, if dead. In this Situation let us leave both the Coffin and Stones, and examine what became of *Peters*.

After he had lain some Time in the Thicket he fell into a kind of Convulsive Fit, and the two Women that attended him, hearing some People at a small Distance coming up, were obliged to leave him, for fear of being discovered; but returning some Time the next Day, they found he was beginning to recover from the Fits, yet they were afraid to stay there with him, because a Rumour of his being still alive had spread thro' the Country, and the Sheriff had sent Men out in Pursuit of him. Notwithstanding all the Search that could be made, he recovered and made his Escape from that Place; yet, by some Accident or other, he soon fell into the Sheriff's Hands again, who had him transmitted to *Kilmainham* Gaol in *Dublin*, where he was kept a close Prisoner, till a Rule of Transportation was obtained for sending him to the Plantations. *Will. Peters* having Notice of it, made strenuous Application to his Accomplices, to assist him in making an Escape, which was effected by filing his Bolts, and breaking a Hole thro' the Wall in the Night. When he got his Liberty, he took Horse and rode down to the *Queen's County*, and in his Way tarrying a While at *Glenmalier*, where *Charles Dempsy* did live, he made no Scruple of discovering himself, as may appear by the following Relation, which a Friend of mine had from his own Mouth, as follows: *An Acquaintance of mine*, says he, *who had been instructed in the Art of Surgery at* Paris, *came to see me in Gaol, a few Days before my Trial at* Naas; *he prepared something for me, which I was to keep in my Mouth while I hung, if possible, and said it would*

be a Means of preſerving my Life: This made me ſomewhat careleſs of preparing for Death; for I was intent upon obſerving his Directions. * *I turned from the Ladder as eaſily as I could, and for the Space of a Minute or two was very ſenſible of Pain, and could feel ſomething now and then under my Feet, till immediately I thought all Things before me were turned into a red Flame, which preſently ſeemed blue, till at laſt all Things vaniſhed quite I can remember no more of what paſſed at the Gallows, or any where elſe, than a Man in a profound Sleep, till Evening: then, as I lay in the Coffin, I can remember to have ſeen ſeveral that I knew, and could hear, tho' not diſtinctly. My Neck was in great Pain, yet I could perceive that I was carried ſome where, and that Sack was poured down my Throat as I lay on the Ground; what Condition I was in from that Time till the Woman came to me next Day, I can remember nothing at all of, tho' the Ground where I lay was much beaten. At laſt I recovered my Senſes, partly, and uſed my beſt Endeavours to make my Eſcape, tho' it was a long Time before I was able to run: But, at a Time when I thought myſelf ſecure, the Sheriff had Notice where I lay, and came upon me at unawares. I was tranſmitted to* Dublin, *and ſtill expected to hear of my Death-warrant, but, to my Surprize, News came that I*

* People thought it was by Witchcraft he preſerved his Life; and his Mother uſed frequently to ſay, that no Hemp was able to hang her Son, that he had received the Charm from the ſame Witch that gave *Cahier na Gappul* the Inchantment for catching Horſes.

was ordered for Transportation, which terrified me worse than the Gallows itself: This was what set me upon contriving my Escape, which I effected, and now I have got into my own Country, I value them not a Fart.

Notwithstanding this Bravado, such a Search was made for him that he was in Terror, and skulked about from one Lurking-place to another, acting only as a petty Thief; so that we have little or no Account of his private Transactions, till passing thro' *Derryclonah*, a Hill near *Mountmelick*, he stopped a While at an old Shepherd's House, whose Name was *Gildagh*: This Shepherd had a Neighbour whose Horse was a very great Trespasser upon him, and had destroyed a great Part of his Croft: After repeated Demands of Satisfaction for the Damages, the Owner gave him none, upon which *Gildagh* made his Complaint to *Peters*, and one *Morgan*, one of his Neighbours, who was then absconding from the Constable, who was in pursuit of him with a Warrant, for cutting down Timber in the Night: These two presently put him in a Way of taking an odd Kind of Revenge, which he treasured up in his Mind, and went to the Owner of the Horse, vowing Revenge in very broken *English*, (for he could speak no other) thus, *Arrah*, Dennish, *I told you twinty times your Ars spoil my Oats, and you wont pay me for it, nor keep him out; af you let your Ars into my Corn agin, I will make your Ars pay for dat*; but *Dennis* only laughed at him: This was in the Month of *September*, and very early next Morning, before it grew light, the Horse was taken in the Shepherd's Croft again; he drove him home, and put him into

into a waſte Houſe, till Aſſiſtants helped him to tie Tow and Flax with ſtrong Cords to his Tail, interweaving them with the Hair very thick and faſt, adding ſome melted Pitch, Tallow, &c. therewith: When the Horſe was thus prepared, they led him out privately, and ſhut the Door, then ſetting the Tail on fire he was turned looſe: The Colt, having never been docked, had a long Tail, and to be ſure cut a pretty Figure with it all in a Flame, ſometimes ſwinging it about in the Air, and ſometimes clapping it cloſe to his Buttocks: In this Condition he ran homewards, like a Devil bewitched (as the Saying is) and in his Way paſſing by an old Woman, who was juſt come out of her Cabbin, early in the Morning, to draw a Pitcher of Water, ſhe was affrighted at the Sight, and fainted away; but coming to herſelf again, and remembering there was a Report in the Country, that *Ireland* was to be deſtroyed in a few Days, ſhe ran homewards for her Beads with all ſpeed, which ſhe had forgot, in order to repeat as many Prayers as ſhe could before her Diſſolution, making the Sign of the Croſs all the Way as ſhe went; but not obſerving which Way ſhe ran, ſhe knocked her Head againſt a Tree, and fell into a Ditch, where ſhe lay a conſiderable Time, and had but a narrow Eſcape from being ſmothered in the Water: As the Horſe paſſed on a little farther, he came up to his Owner, as he was examining ſome Heaps of Bating that he had burning in a Field near his Houſe: *Dennis* was as much, or more, ſurpriſed than the old Woman, thinking no other than that the World was ſet on fire; for his Horſe knew him and ran round him, as tho' he wanted Relief, ſnorting, kicking, ranging and

throwing the Fire about like a Fire-ſhip. However the Man was under a great Concern for his Wife and Children, whom he left aſleep; and, making what Speed he could to give them Notice, that they might all ſay their Prayers, and be ready for Heaven together, he ran a croſs ſome of the Heaps in a Miſtake, and carried Part of the Fire home in his Brogues. As ſoon as he entered his Cabbin he began his Story, and awakened all the Family, who, finding the Fire about his Feet, were confirmed in the ſame Opinion, and, with their Beads in their Hands, began their *Ave Marias* as faſt as they could, till the Fire had penetrated thro' the Man's Stockings, and brought him to his Feeling and Senſes. He pulled off his Brogues, and began to ſhout with Pain, till his Wife came to his Aſſiſtance, who, having more Wit than he, ſoon diſcovered what Kind of Fire he brought in, and extinguiſhed it. In the mean While the poor Colt paid for the Roaſt; his Buttocks and Fundament, were burned, or rather roaſted, to the Bone, and, notwithſtanding a ſkilful Farrier uſed his beſt Endeavours to cure him, he died in a few Days. When the Family had recovered from the Surprize, and could ſee no other Part of the World on Fire, they adventur'd abroad to ſee if the Horſe were to be had, which they found (not on Fire, but) groaning with Pain, having his Buttocks all roaſted, and not an Hair left on his Tail. Notice was given to the Neighbours all round, who immediately ſuſpected the Roguery of the Matter, ſome of them having heard the Shepherd threaten the Colt a few Days before; but being aſked he poſitively denied it.

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I cannot tell how long, but ſome Time after this *Morgan* and *Gildagh* were both apprehended at *Maryborough*, where, for want of ſufficient Proof, they were only ſentenced to pay 20*l.* Fine, or ſuffer a Year's Impriſonment: The Priſoners made ſeveral Excuſes, and pleaded Poverty a long Time, till at length the Fine was reduced to 5*l.* at laſt, ſays *Morgan, My Lord, I am very poor, I can't raiſe a Shilling in the World. Why,* ſays the Judge, *if your Friends can't raiſe ſo much for you, they muſt let you lie. Well, my Lord,* ſays *Gildagh, we will ſplit the Differ wid you.* This was a kind of Phraſe the Judge was not acquainted with, and aſking one of the Councils what the Fellow meant, the Council ſaid he could not tell, unleſs he meant that he would give fifty Shillings. The Fellow expreſſed himſelf after ſuch a queer Manner, that the whole Court burſt out into a Fit of Laughter, and, for the Joke's ſake, the Judge was prevailed upon to reduce the Fine to fifty Shillings, which Sum was immediately raiſed, and the Priſoners diſcharged from Gaol.

In Conjunction with one *Miles Reily*, who was hanged afterwards, and one *Cavanagh*, *Peters* went down to *Dublin*, in order to try their Fortune: Not meeting with Succeſs for ſome Time, they laid a Scheme for robbing a Shopkeeper in *Thomas-ſtreet* in the Night; and to put the Deſign in Execution, it was ordered that one of them ſhould go, in pretence of buying ſome Merchant's Goods, and get Leave to let a Sack lie in the Shop till the Cars ſhould call in the Morning: very well; the Sack was brought accordingly in the Evening, and laid down at the Elbow of the Counter, where it lay till about Nine at

Night

Night; then ſome of the Neighbours coming in, one that was pretty corpulent ſat on the Sack, till *Cavanah* who was in it, and no longer able to ſuſtain the Load, thruſted a ſharp-pointed Knife into the Man's Buttock; the Man ſtarted up in a Surprize, and the reſt ſeeing him begin to bleed, began to ſearch the Sack, wherein they found a *Live Creature*, and ſo the *Marmoot* was conveyed very privately into *Newgate*, where he confeſſed what was to follow, in Expectation of getting off. In the mean While the Shop was ſhut up, and three Men were left in it to watch it, with Orders to open the Door and let the reſt in when they came, and, if poſſible, to take them. About one o'Clock *Reily* came to the Door, and called *Cavanah*, upon which he was let in, and ſeized; but the reſt, miſtruſting all was not right, took to their Heels before they entered. *Reily* and *Cavanah* were both acquitted, becauſe *Reily* had neither forced in, nor taken any Thing, and *Cavanah* was promiſed Favour on his Confeſſion.

How *Peters* made his Way down to *Kilkenny* afterwards, I do not remember; but one dark Night, as he was going thro' the Street with one of his Comrades, he eſpied an *Iriſh* Woman, who was a Pedler's Wife, counting ſome Halfpence in a Shop which ſhe had juſt received: Upon this his Comrade went in, and aſked her to change him a Sixpence-halfpenny Piece; but the Woman not liking his Aſpect, put up her Money; then the Fellow blew out the Candle, and *Peters*, in the mean While, ran away with a Roll of Tobacco and ſeven Yards of Frize, that ſhe was going to take home: This made her ſet up the Hue

and

nd Cry, and the Neighbours coming to her Aſ-ſiſtance, *Peters* was purſued and taken, with the Tobacco in his Poſſeſſion: He was committed to Gaol, and when the Aſſizes came was brought upon his Trial; The Woman ſpoke nothing but *Iriſh*, and was allowed an Interpreter; yet ſhe proſecuted him to the utmoſt, and on the Strength of her Evidence was *Peters* condemned. Several Indictments were preferred againſt him, and he was arraigned on one for entering a Houſe, with more of his Clan, while the Woman was in Labour, and abuſing her and all the Women about her (for there were no Men) in a very barbarous Manner: They ſtripped them of their Cloaths, and took away all the Moveables they found in their Way, and when they had drank as much of the Liquor, deſigned for the Groaning, as ever they were able, they let the reſt run about the Houſe, and then left them.

He was guilty, to be ſure, of many Facts as black as this, and deſerved hanging over and over. When he was brought into Court, to receive Sentence of Death, the Judge told him, that he was informed he ſhould ſay that there was not a Rope in *Ireland* ſufficient to hang him; *but*, ſays he, *I'll try if* Kilkenny *can't afford one ſtrong enough to do your Buſineſs, and if one will not do, you ſhall have another, and another*; then he ordered the Sheriff to chuſe a Rope, and *Peters* was hanged the next Day. The Sheriff having Notice of his Mother's boaſting, that no Rope could hang her Son, (and purſuant to the Judge's Deſire) provided two Ropes, but *Peters* broke them both, one after another: The Sheriff was then in a Rage, and went for three Bed-cords, which he platted

platted threefold together, and these did his Business: Yet the Sheriff was afraid he was not dead enough, and in a Passion, to make Trial, stabbed him with his Sword in the Soles of his Feet, and at last cut the Rope. After he was cut down, his Body was carried into the Court-house, where it remained in the Coffin for two Days standing up, till the Judge and all Spectators were fully satisfied that he was stiff dead, and then Permission was given to his Friends to remove the Corps and bury it.

Notwithstanding he was so great a Rogue, he was a handsome, portly Man, very diverting in Company, and could behave before Gentlemen very agreeably. He had a poetical Genius, and would have made a great Proficiency in Learning, if he had rightly applied his Time. He composed several Songs and put Tunes to them, and by his Skill in Musick had gained the Favour of some of the leading Men's Sons in the Country, who endeavoured to get him reprieved. 1736.

The History of Charles Dempsy, *alias* Cahier na Gappul, *the renowned Horse-stealer.*

THE Father of this *Cahier* was a Man of as great Note among the Rapparees in the Reign of King *James*, as any that ever escaped the Gallows: Tho' after the Kingdom was restored to its former Privileges by King *William*'s Forces, he left off that Practice pretty much, and

and lived like the reſt of his Countrymen. He had ſeveral Sons, three whereof afterwards became very notorious, *viz. Daniel, Charles* and *Luke*. *Daniel* was put to School in his Youth, till he obtained the Reputation of a good Scholar, but, not being fond of going abroad to finiſh his Studies, chole to ſtay at home and lead the Life of his Brother, rather than be put into Orders (for he was intended for a Prieſt.) When he arrived to Man's Eſtate, he was too eaſily drawn in to be Clark and Regiſter to his Brother *Cahier*, who could neither read nor write, and at length, by following his Pattern, was brought to the Gallows and executed along with him in *Auguſt* 1735. Their Brother *Luke* would have had the like Fate only that he fled the Country, tho' he never arrived to half the Dexterity of *Charles* in the Art of Horſe-hiding. They all underſtood the canting Language pretty well, yet made no Uſe of it but upon proper Occaſions, which made ſeveral of their Neighbours think there was more laid to their Charge than they deſerved, till Time made the Truth manifeſt. But as our Deſign here is only to give the Hiſtory of *Charles Dempſy*, let us omit Circumlocutions and proceed.

This *Charles Dempſy*, alias *Cahier na Gappul*, was born on the Lands of *Glenmalier* near *Ballybrittas*, in the *Queen's County*, and in his Childhood was kept mollly at his Foſter-father's, where he learned to ſpeak *Iriſh*, but little or no *Engliſh*. From his Infancy, it was obſerved that he was much addicted to Lying, and defrauding his Companions, little Children out of their Play-things, and was ſo extraordinary fond of Horſes, and Riding, that before he had arrived to the Age of

five Years he could ride and ſtick on a wild Horſe better than a great many Men; a Thing ſeldom known. 'Tis an old Proverb, and commonly taken for granted, that *he that's born to be hang'd will never be drowned*; nor has it been more apparently verified in the Life of any Perſon than in his; for at the Age aforeſaid, being prompted by his natural Inclination to ride on a three Year old Colt, he perſuaded a Man to put him on his Back, tho' he had nothing but a Collar on his Head; but not being any way capable of managing the young Beaſt, he ran headlong with him to the *Barrow* and ſwam acroſs it, tho' there was a very high Flood, and the Stream rapid: He held his Grip by the Mane very well till he got to the further Side, but ſtriving to land at a bad Place, the Bank broke under the Beaſt's Breaſt, and he ſank with it under Water for a Moment, and poor *Charles* was waſhed off with the Current, which carried them both down the River near 50 Yards, till the Colt found footing, and plunged out; yet he held a faſt Grip of the Collar till he got on dry Ground, tho' he was ſhortly after taken up for dead, and with ſome Difficulty recovered. After this he uſed frequently to ſay, in Iriſh, *he would not fear drowning if he went to Sea in a Turf kiſh*; neither was he afterwards any thing afraid of the *Barrow* Water, for he made ſeveral dangerous Adventures acroſs it to eſcape the Hands of his Purſuers.

As he grew up he became more cautious of pilfering publickly than when he was young; not that he thought it any Sin, but in dread of the Law: He managed his Affairs ſo cunningly as to lay the Facts always on others, becauſe he had an inveterate

inveterate Hatred to the Gallows and the Court Houſe after Sir *Toby's* Death.

From a Child he had an ill-favoured Aſpect and his very Countenance bewrayed a deceitful Heart, that is, *he always carried a Rogue's Face*; tho' his Brother *Daniel* was a handſome, portly Man, and of ſeemly Behaviour. His *Engliſh* was but broken at beſt, and ſometimes he pretended to have none at all, as will appear by the Sequel: And, as the Saying is, *Save a Thief from the Gallows and he'll cut your Throat*, ſo it was with him; for his Ingratitude was ſo great, and he had ſo little Fidelity, that he made no Scruple of accuſing his neareſt Relations, or even his Landlord, nay, Perſons no Way guilty or concerned, to ſave himſelf.

At the Age of twelve Years he began to practiſe the Art of decoying and catching Horſes, in which he acquired ſo much Skill, that he made no Difficulty of laying Hands on the wildeſt Colt; and Horſes that had been handled, ſeemed to fall into his Clutches of their own Accord. Perhaps ſome Readers would expect that I ſhould give a particular Account of his Management in this Affair, but as our Intent in publiſhing this Hiſtory is only to put honeſt People on their Guard againſt Robbers and Rogues, it can be no Way neceſſary, neither is it expedient, to teach a Thief how to catch a Horſe, or to ſteal: If I can ſhew an honeſt Man how to outwit a Rogue, or put a Trick on him, 'tis as much as can be expected; and verily that was my chief Deſign in publiſhing this Book.

But, if Fame be true, it will be entirely needleſs to mention any Particulars: The Country

People will have it, and do firmly believe it was by a kind of Witchcraft, or Charm, that he decoyed and entrapped Horſes, and taught others to do ſo; and they affirm, that he received this Charm from a Witch in the County of *Monaghen*, (with whom he was very intimate) for ſome ſingular Services he had done her. However, the following Relation will make it ſeem probable that his Father before him had the like Charm; for which Reaſon I am more than half inclined to diſſent from the vulgar Opinion, and conclude, that this Magick was inherent in the Family, and runs in the Blood.

The Story was related by a Gentleman, thus:

In the Beginning of Queen Anne's *Reign, I went to ſee a Friend of mine near* Abbyleix, *and having arrived at the Place, I walked out to the Fields in the Evening alone; and when I came near to the Bog, I found that I had Occaſion to eaſe Nature; I choſe a convenient Place under a Hedge for that Purpoſe, but before I had finiſhed the Diſcharge of my Office, there appeared thro' the Hedge a Man before me, driving ſome Horſes very quietly into a Corner, one whereof he took hold of by the near fore Leg, and held him faſt till he threw a ſhort Rope about his Neck, then he vaulted on him with more Agility than ever I ſaw a Miller do on his Sacks: In this Poſture, with a long Stick in his Hand, he drove the Colt (tho' he was never handled before) acroſs the Bog, till he got out of my Sight, plunging and leaping to ſuch a Degree all the Way, that one would have thought, if the Old Boy were on his Back, he had but a dull Chance from coming off without a broken Neck; and, by the Noiſe they made, I conjectured they might have gone a Mile at*

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the ſame Rate before I left the Place. I had no Notion of Rapparees being out at this Time, and thought it might be ſome one that owned the Colt that had made ſo free with him; till returning to my Friend's I told the Story, and then they all ſuſpected, as it really was, from the Manner of catching the Colt, that old Dempſy *(tho' he had been quiet a long Time) had come to pay them a Viſit.* Thus the Gentleman ended his Story: And now to proceed with *Charles*.

His Foſter-father was a Tenant under Major *P——tt*, who once, as he was riding out to take a Review of his Land, took Notice of young *Charles*'s Activity in riding Horſes; upon which he had him ſent home to him, in order to be an Attendant on his Groom, and to learn him to ſpeak *Engliſh*, where he behaved tolerably well and modeſt for a Month or two, and then he began his waggiſh Tricks. The Groom and another Servant happening to have ſome Difference between themſelves, *Charles* was reſolved to wind it up to the higheſt, and bring a Battle about, if poſſible: They had been often jarring and ſparring, and, as the Groom lay in a Room under the Hay-loft, thro' which there was a private Hole, wide enough for a Man to paſs thro', the young Rogue took an Opportunity, in the Groom's Abſence, to drop a large Sir-reverence at the Foot of his Bed, not forgetting to beſprinkle it a little: When the Groom was going to make his Bed, what ſhould he lay his Hand firſt upon but the T——, which all bedaubed him, and threw him into ſuch a Fit of Anger, that he vowed to be revenged of his Fellow-ſervant in the Morning, whom he ſuſpected, and no body elſe. He went none to Bed

that Night, but sat up, and as soon as his Master came out next Day made his Complaint to him: His Master could hardly forbear smiling at the Joke, tho' it was a dirty one, yet he shewed a very great Resentment to the other Servant who was accused, tho' the Fellow, who was innocent, utterly denied that he knew any Thing of the Matter. All this gave the Groom no Satisfaction, but to Loggerheads he would and did go with the other, who proving too hard for him, the Groom was worsted and obliged to give out; then the other, and all that took his Part, reported that the Groom had beshit his own Bed, and that he laid it on another with no other View than to excuse himself; which getting Wind, he was so jeered about it that he had no Quietness, till he quit his Service and went away.

There were several young Gentlewomen in the House who were very glad of the Groom's Departure, because he was very ready in making Complaints against themselves to the old Gentleman; from hence *Charles* took Occasion to let the young Ladies into the Secret, who approving of his Management, employed him in several little Affairs, and about Messages, not proper to mention here. But it happened once, in the Fruit Season, that the young Gentlewomen had a great Desire for some choice Fruit out of the Orchard, into which they were refused Admittance by the Major; upon this they employed *Charles* to rob the Orchard, who getting up very early, by Break of Day the next Morning, and without staying to put on his Breeches, crept thro' a Hole in the Roof of the Privy-house, adjoining the Orchard, and went to pillaging the Trees, where

he

he filled a large chequer'd Apron with the choiceſt Fruit, and was making ready to return: There was a Clergyman that lodged in the Houſe who had got a Touch of the Country Diſeaſe, and was ſomewhat out of Order, and having Occaſion to give ſpeedy Vent, had repaired to the Office-houſe for that Purpoſe, while the Boy was on his Expedition: As the Gentleman ſat on the Seat, and was ſtooping forward, the Boy came to the Hole, where, without looking before him, as he was deſcending, the Apron untied, and all the Fruit came tumbling down about his Ears; and at the ſame Moment *Charles* fell, with his Legs one on each Side of the Clergyman's Neck, and by the Weight of the Fall threw him on his Face, in this Poſture they lay wedged together in a Nook, for near the ſpace of a Minute before *Charles* could diſengage himſelf; and the Clergyman's Surprize being heightened more and more upon feeling nothing but naked Skin about him, he fainted quite away, and lay ſtill on the Ground; the Boy, thinking he had killed the Gentleman, ran away with all Speed, and came back no more to his Service: But the Clergyman, who could not ſee him, and was as much terrified as the Boy (without ſuſpecting him in the leaſt) went in and told the Story: Some pitied him, others could hardly forbear ſmiling; but no body could find out the Truth, till the Boy being miſſing two or three Days, and the young Gentlewomen knowing the Apron that was left behind, called to mind the Exploit they had ſet him about, and ſo conjectured, that it could be no one elſe but young *Dempſy* who had affrighted the poor Clergyman into a Fit.

In the Days of his Youth, there was a Miller, at the Wind mill near *Ballybrittas*, a Fellow very fit for his Purpose, with whom he had picked an Acquaintance: *Charles* had been often tampering with him to come into his Measures, but the Fellow had imbibed such strange Notions of a Judge, that he thought he must be something more than mortal to decide and give Judgment on criminal Causes; nay, he imagined the Judge knew the Truth of every Complaint that was brought before him, before he heard it; for which Reason he was afraid of entering into any Affair that might bring him before one, till he was fully informed what kind of a Thing a Judge is. *Charles*, to remove these Scruples, prevailed on the Fellow, who was very desirous of knowing, to go with him to *Maryborough* Assize, where they heard some Causes tried; which satisfied the Miller's Curiosity so far, that he told *Cahier*, as they were returning home, that a Judge was like one of themselves, and nothing else but a Man, and that he would be nothing afraid of entering the Lists with *Charles*, as soon as he pleased: Accordingly the Fellow was enlisted, and put into Employment by his Master.

By this Time *Charles* had picked up sufficient Acquaintance in most Parts of the Kingdom, for putting his Designs in Execution. He fixed five or six of his own Relations in *Upper Ormond* and *Offery*, and as many in the Counties of *Leitrim*, *Monaghan* and *Derry*, besides a vast Number of Receivers and Assistants in almost every Hole and Corner in the Country; so that nothing went amiss with him. He had likewise never less than four Apprentices at a Time, who were always bound

bound for the Term of ſeven Years, and paid a pretty round Sum of Money for learning his Art and Myſtery, in which he had ſuch great Skill, that Boys were ſent to him all the Way from the County of *Kerry* to be bound. Perhaps he was the firſt *Iriſh* Rogue that ever thought of ſuch a Stratagem; for had he taken a thouſand Pounds for teaching a Boy to catch or diſfigure a Horſe or a Cow only, I queſtion whether he could be hanged by our Laws for it; and, by the Sequel, we may obſerve, that he always acted in ſuch a Manner as to be capable of evading the Force of the Law, if poſſible, tho' he was as great a Rogue as has been hanged.

He had, beſides his *Satyrs*, Receivers and Apprentices, a Number of Spies and Setters, whoſe Buſineſs only was to make Obſervations, and give Notice what Cattle (and where they) might be moſt ſafely conveyed away; and theſe had no Communication with the *Satyrs* or Drivers themſelves. Whenever ſuch Notice was given to *Charles*, an Expreſs was immediately diſpatched to ſome one or more of the *Satyrs*, with a Deſcription of ſuch Beaſt or Beaſts, which, without any more Words, was ſufficient to be underſtood. By ſuch Means as this, the downright Thievery could never be proved on *Charles*, tho' every Body knew he was Receiver General, and that his Servants were all paid by the Piece, ſo much a Beaſt, for officiating; but how *Daniel* kept his Accounts is a Secret.

He had private Places for hiding ſtolen Cattle of all Kinds in, and at any Time, when he thought proper, would order ſuch Horſes as came from *Leinſter* Side, or *Munſter*, down to his Correſpon-

pondents in the North, who either would send them from *Derry*, *Newry* or *Donaghadee* to *Scotland*, or otherwise swap them off in Fairs, or sell them. Such Horses as his Correspondents got in Exchange, they made no Scruple of selling publickly, because they could prove the getting of them; but those that were stolen in the North were commonly sent to different Hands, and disposed of in *Upper Ormond*, *Offery*, or in *Munster*. To satisfy the Reader's Curiosity, I shall rehearse one Story, being Part of the Confession of one of his Confederates, while he lay in Confinement, before he was executed in *Kilkenny*, which will give a more particular Account of his Management than the foregoing.

He confessed to the People who came to see him, that one of *Charles*'s Setters came to him by Night where he lived, and told him there were three Horses in a Park near *Clonegal*, one was black, with a Star and one white Foot, another a bay Gelding that padded, and the third a white Pad, with his Mane and Tail cut close: He said he understood the Messenger's Meaning very well, and accordingly conveyed the three Horses down to *Glenmalier* in two Nights after. After that he was pitched upon as the most proper Person for disposing of them, and pursuant to his Orders, took them down to the County of *Monaghon*; but as the white Horse was so very remarkable, they stained him all over of a Flesh-colour Red, in order to disguise him, which was done with *Brazillet* and *Allum* boiled in Water; but this Colour was soon washed off. This Fellow was not so much as known in that Country, so by the Assistance of some of his Brother Receivers, he put off

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the three Horſes in a Fair, being all ſightly Cattle, to good Advantage; for two of them he got twenty Pounds, and for the third a Mare, that was afterwards ſold in the County of *Waterford* for ſix Pounds. Some Time after this the Owner of the bay Horſe was directed to *Charles*, in Expectation of getting ſome Tidings of his Beaſt; but *Cahier* would not undertake the Enquiry till he was paid two Guineas in Hand, upon which he promiſed to ſearch for the Horſe: In about twelve Days after the Horſe was taken out of a Stone Park in the Night, where the laſt Purchaſer kept him, and ſo conveyed down to *Charles*, who gave the right Owner Notice that he might find ſuch a Horſe in a Wood near the River *Barrow*; upon which the Owner ſent his Servant for him, and had him brought home without any Compliments. Some Time after, this Owner was riding to the North to buy Linen, and having his Horſe with him, he was challenged, and ſecured till the Aſſizes; but the Owner bringing ſufficient Evidence that he bred him, and that he had been miſſing all the While the other had him, got the better of the Diſpute, and took his Horſe home again. On the other Hand, the Purchaſer could only prove that he bought him in a Fair, but could not tell from whom; ſo that by ſuch Means the Thief was ſeldom found.

By what has been related one may perceive how cunningly his Affairs were carried on; and in the next Place I ſhall relate ſome of his own Actions.

There was an elderly Gentleman in the *King's County*, who had a particular Humour of his own in ſeveral Reſpects, and when he took a Fancy to

any

any Thing, was commonly so choice of it, that he would suffer no one else to use it. He had a dun Horse of great Spirit, and a good Hunter, which he was so choice of that he would not even suffer his Son to ride him: The Son knew the Goodness of the Horse as well as the Father, and had cast a covetous Eye upon him, but could not tell how to compass his Desire, till he had advised with *Cabier*, who gave him proper Directions. In Consideration of an handsome Fee, *Charles* provided him with the Skin of a Horse of the same Colour, and with the like Marks of his Father's Horse, which was then at Grass; The Skin was dipped in a Bog hole, and presented to the Father by one of his Tenants, as the Skin of his Gelding, which, they said, was drowned in a Bog-hole. The old Man, who had not all the Wit in the World, nor any Mistrust of the Fraud, believed his Tenant's Report, and took it for Matter of Fact. However, some Time after, the Son, who had kept the Horse concealed, rode on him home, pretending he had bought him in a Fair; as soon as the Father saw him, he cried out, *D——ly, I vow to God, only my Horse was drowned, I would take my Oath that's he, for he's as like him as ever I saw any Thing in my Life*; which Expression passed for a sterling Joke among the Gentlemen of the Country for a long Time afterwards.

Cabier had Occasion once to pay his Correspondents in the County of *Kilkenny* a Visit, and to examine how the Affairs and Accounts stood between them; where, as he was on his March in the Evening, he went into a poor Widow's House and demanded a Drink of Milk, upon which she brought a large Draught of Butter milk; but disliking

liking it very much, he abuſed her to all Intents and Purpoſes, and bid her go for ſome of the new Milk, which ſhe refuſed, and would not own to have any other than what ſhe brought; then he called her Bitch and Whore, and curſed her over and over, withal ſaying, ſhe ſhould pay for that ill Uſage: And indeed ſo ſhe did, for before next Morning her two Cows, being all ſhe had, were ſtolen from her, neither could ſhe get any Tidings of them after.

Much about this Time he was in his Prime, and kept a Place much like an Office of Intelligence, where his Brother *Daniel* was Regiſter, who kept an Account not only of their Correſpondents and Places of Abode, but likewiſe how, and for what every Beaſt was diſpoſed of: By this Means they were able to anſwer all ſuch Perſons as came in purſuit of Cattle: If they were to be had at all, he generally demanded a Fee in Hand, for putting the Owner in a Way of getting his Beaſt, which Fee was always proportioned according to the Beaſt's Value, or the Difficulty that might attend the Recovery of it; and if it happened that the Beaſt could not be procured with any Safety, he was to return ſuch a Part of his Fee as was agreed on before-hand, which he ſeldom refuſed. Now we muſt obſerve, that *Cabier* never delivered to the Owner any Beaſt that had been ſtolen; all that he did was to direct him to go where he might find ſuch an one; and this Stratagem was to prevent home Proof being given againſt him. Nevertheleſs he had the Misfortune to be bit even in this Reſpect, and catched in ſuch a Trap that it coſt him a Summer's Work to get looſe. This was in the Year 1729, when the Practice was ſo common

of

of killing Sheep in the Night-time and taking away their Skins, Carcaſes and Fat, which were diſpoſed of in diſtant Places. This Practice was carried on moſtly by diſcarded Shepherds (tho' not without *Cahier*'s Knowledge) who kept Dogs trained fit for the Purpoſe, with other Materials.

A Gentleman in the County of *Kildare* having ſome Cows ſtolen from him, employed a truſty Servant to make Enquiry from *Cahier*, who having received his Fee, in a ſhort Time gave proper Directions, as he thought, where to find them. The Gentleman managed ſo craftily, that he took up one of the Perſons in whoſe Cuſtody the Cattle were found, and this Perſon having accuſed *Cahier*, *Cahier* was taken and put into *Naas* Gaol, where, on purpoſe to ſave his own Neck, he turned Evidence for the King, and impeached ſix or ſeven People in that County, who hearing of it fled the Country. *Cahier* told the Judges that he could do the Country a vaſt deal of Service, that he could inform againſt Rogues in every County in the Province, and was willing to do it, to bring them to Juſtice. The Judges were pretty well informed of his Capacity of doing ſo, but not imagining that he was a forſworn Rogue, they took him thro' the Circuit, to *Philipſtown*, *Marborough*, *Carloe*, *Kilkenny*, *Wexford*, and *Wicklow*, expecting to benefit the Country, by ridding it of Rogues upon his Evidence; but *Charles* took Care not to inform againſt any who were ſtaunch to his Intereſt, impeaching none but ſuch as he was afraid might betray him, if taken up, or ſuch as he owed a Grudge to, tho' they were innocent, and no Way concerned with him. 'Tis true he was diſcharged, and ſlipped

his

his own Neck out of the Halter by this Means, but the Country was little the better; for tho' he cauſed four or five to be hanged, 'tis thought that ſome of them were not guilty.

Charles had not been long out of Confinement before he took a ſmall Concern under a Gentleman near *Lea*, on which he opened his Office again; and as he had accuſed none of his ſtanch Comrades they laid no Fault to his Charge, but joined him very readily, and carried on their Trade as before, in Conjunction.

However, one of his Boys had given him Occaſion to be angry upon a certain Time, for which he banged and abuſed him, the Boy being ſtomached at this Uſage, threatened to make ſome Diſcovery to his Maſter's Prejudice; which to prevent, *Charles* decoyed him into a Wood (knowing that he could neither read nor write) and with Aſſiſtance bound him faſt, and then cut out his Tongue; however, thro' Miſtake, not ſo cloſe but that when he was cured he made a Shift to ſpeak, tho' very imperfectly.

At another Time, one of his Accomplices brought to him by Night a very ſimple Fellow, (in Appearance) from *Upper Ormond*, who came only to get Intelligence of two Horſes that had been ſtolen from him, and had laid down a Guinea for Information Money. *Charles* was then, near the Windmill, at a very By-place, yet, tho' the Fellow was brought to him by Night, and through the moſt crooked Paths, he began to ſuſpect that the Man had ſomething more in his Head than Lice, and was reſolved to put him into the high Road as privately as he came, leſt he ſhould come as a Spy againſt him another Time.

After

After he had reprimanded his Accomplice for intruding such a Fellow on him without previous Notice, the two Horses were sent for, and ready to be delivered against Day-break; then *Cabier*, after he had plied the Men with Liquor all Night, sent for a large Sack, and having bound the Fellow Hand and Foot, and gagged him, to prevent his making a Noise, he was tumbled into it, and then the Vacancy was well stuffed with Hay (only a Hole was made for him to breath thro') to make it seem like a Sack of Corn. When Matters were thus prepared, *Charles* mounted on one of the Horses, and had the Sack thrown up before him, which he carried thro' as private Paths as he could for about two Miles, till he got into the high Road, and it began to grow pretty light; then pitching upon a proper Spot of Ground, where there was good Grass, he took the Sack off the Horse, the Gag out of the Fellow's Mouth, tethered both Horses, and made off himself. The Fellow had no other Way left to relieve himself than by calling out to Passengers, which he did very powerfully, but found no Relief till about nine o'Clock. When he was released, he catch'd his Horses and made the best of his Way home, for fear of meeting with a second Disaster.

Charles was shortly after indicted for several Facts, and committed to *Maryborough* Gaol with his Comrade *Jack*; but their Landlord, who perhaps was afraid of losing some Arrears if he lost his Tenant, made such Interest, and obtained so fair a Character for him, that he was acquitted for that Time, and his Brother also, tho' it was very well known, that they were privy to the stealing of almost

almoſt every Horſe that had been ſtolen in the Country.

But ſome little Time after the ſaid Landlord, to make ſure of his Rent, ſeized on *Cabier*'s Effects, and turned him off his Land. This put him to his Wits End to meditate Revenge, which he thought he could bring about no better Way than by accuſing him, and bringing him in as a Party concerned along with him.

His former Landlord had converted a large Vault that lay under an old Caſtle into a Stable, which was large enough to hold ſeveral Horſes; in this Stable, and in a Wood near to it (which ſome People ſay *Charles* did only thro' Deſign) *Cabier*, when he had Occaſion, had Leave to put ſome of his Horſes; and this was Foundation enough for him to ground an Accuſation upon: Nay, he made Preparations for giving in Examinations, and the whole Country had it by the End, that the ſaid Gentleman was one of the Managers in the Confederacy.

Mr. *G*——, the ſaid Gentleman, who was upon ſetting up for a Juſtice, being irritated againſt *Charles*, had Examinations given againſt him, and, after a very difficult Purſuit, *Cabier* was taken and committed to *Naas* Gaol, in *November* 1734, where he remained till the *March* Aſſizes following, from whence he was tranſmitted to *Maryborough*, in order to be tried. While he was purſued he ſwam ſeveral times acroſs the *Barrow* tho' the Flood was great, and his ſaid Landlord's Men followed him with as much Reſolution, till they took him in a Haggard, where he had concealed himſelf.

Things

Things being now brought to this Situation, he ſwore ſeveral Examinations in *Iriſh*, while he was in Confinement, againſt the Gentleman and others to put off his own Trial, and told his Stories ſo plauſibly, that ſeveral Gentlemen in the Country took his Part, and the Gentleman was tried; and were it not for the Intereſt of ſome leading Men in the County, it is to be feared he might have ſuffered. It was with ſome Difficulty that his Trial was put off till *Auguſt* Aſſizes, tho' *Cahier* was the only Evidence againſt him: But ſome others whom *Charles* accuſed were tied up by the Neck, particularly one *Hickey*, who owned that he had often tranſgreſſed, but denied the Facts whereof he was then accuſed at the Gallows.

We muſt now paſs on to *Cahier's* Trial at *Maryborough*, in *Auguſt* 1735. He was firſt brought to the Bar, and then ordered to hold up his Hand, which he did pretty quietly, Time after Time, till above thirty Indictments were read againſt him: Then the Judge ſaid, *Guilty or not guilty*; but *Cahier* ſeemed not to underſtand one Word of *Engliſh*, till one behind him bid him in *Iriſh* to anſwer; then he turned about and aſked the other, in the ſame Language what he ſhould ſay; *Why*, ſays he, *ſay Neel me dheer* (i.e. *Not guilty.*) The Judge then told him he would make him find good *Engliſh* ſhortly; and proceeding on, aſked him how he would be tried; but ſtill no *Engliſh* from *Charles*, who only aſked one that ſtood by, in *Iriſh*, what the Judge ſaid. But the Judge was reſolved not to be trifled with, ſo after much to do he was taught to ſay, *Py Cod and my Guntree*. At length the firſt Evidence was produced, and then a ſecond, and a third, &c. but ſtill nothing

but

but *Iriſh* from *Dempſy*, till one Fellow from the North came up, who ſwore very home againſt him about a Cow; then, all at once, he cried in a Paſſion, *That's a Murder, my Lord, he does not know me at all; he's a lying Rogue, for I had that Cow wid my ſhelf ever; ſhe was born'd upon my own Ground, my Broder here knows it.* *Ah*, ſays the Judge, *you and your Brother*———

His Trial laſted above twelve Hours; for tho there were ſo many Evidences againſt him, and even the Man that had loſt his Tongue, yet not above two, without other Circumſtances, would have hanged him. He ſpoke broken *Engliſh* all along after, and pleaded very artfully, particularly againſt the ſaid Gentleman, who was one of the chief Evidences againſt him. He always contradicted him, and ſtill would ſay to the Judge, that the ſaid Evidence was the greater Rogue of the two. But all did not ſave him, he received Sentence of Death, and was executed in *Auguſt* 1735.

As he paſſed from the Gaol to the Gallows, he minded nothing but diſcourſing with the People who came to enquire of him about Cattle that had been ſtolen from them: To ſome he gave ſatisfactory Anſwers, and directed them where to ſeek; to others he made none. On the Ladder he continued the like Diſcourſe till it was turned; and even then he was ſo loth to die, that he caught hold of it as it turned, and held faſt, till the Sheriff obliged him to quit his Grip, by pounding his Knuckles with the Butt end of his Whip. Thus he went out of the World without clearing any one that he had accuſed, and died, according to the Belief of every Body, a hardened Villain.

His

His Brother *Daniel*, who was found guilty of the like Facts, and executed along with him, behaved in a quite different Manner; he continued reading his Way to Heaven very devoutly in a Manual, from the Gaol to the Gallows, and had repeated a great Number of Prayers before the Ladder was turned.

This same *Charles*, in Imitation of *Redmond O Hanlon*, used to indemnify People from having their Cattle stolen, for a yearly Reward.

John or *Jack Dempsy* was also hanged some Time before; but was not an own Brother of *Charles*'s, tho' generally taken to be so.

THE

THE GOLDFINDER;

OR,

The Notorious Cheats

OF

Manus Mac Oniel

AND

His Man ANDREW.

AMONG the many remarkable Tricks related in the Hiſtory of the *Iriſh Rogues*, there is none deſerves more the Attention of the Reader than the following, being managed by an ignorant Country Fellow, who, by the natural Simplicity of his Look, and an artful Affectation of Folly, paſſed upon the World as a ſtupid innocent Bumkin, incapable of forming the leaſt Deſign or Intrigue, which gave him the Advantage

tage of carrying on his Cheats successfully for a long Time without being in the least suspected. What Province or County he was born in I could never learn, tho' you may take it for granted he was a downright *Irishman*, for he wore the Brogue on his Tongue as fashionable as any *Teague* in the Nation. At the Age of fifteen Years, or thereabouts, he was bound Apprentice to a Mason near *Clonbullock*, in the *King's County*; but his Master dying before he had time to learn the Trade, *Mânus* was put under some Difficulties; however, he made a shift to pick up Acquaintance with an expert Tinker, who had Skill in running down Metal, and, upon Occasion, was not backward in coining a Piece of Silver or Gold, to answer his Necessities. This same Tinker had been tried for his Life for Facts of this Kind, both in *Naas* and *Armagh*, and found Means to get off in both Places. The Indictment upon which he was tried in *Armagh*, was for making and uttering a bad Pistole; where seeming on his Trial to know nothing of the Matter, he said, that not above three Pistoles had passed thro' his Hands in his Life, and that he could know them every one again; at the same Time he begged Leave to see the Piece he was charged with uttering, and if he had passed it he would not deny it; upon this it was given into his Hand to be examined: While he was viewing the Piece he pretended to taste it, but took an Opportunity of drawing another out of his Mouth instead of it, exactly like it, which he said was the same Piece he had passed, and would prove it to be right good Gold; accordingly it was tried and found good, by which Stratagem he got clear.

Mânus

Mânus having got a little Inſight into the Buſineſs grew ſick of the Maſonry, and immediately fell upon new Schemes. By ſome Means or other he procured as much Gold as made a ſmall Ingot, which he uſed as a Decoy: With this he moved towards *Allen*, where meeting with a ſimple, honeſt, *Engliſh* Countryman, fit enough to ſerve his Turn, he took him out into a private Place, and gave him the following Relation.

I was Printice, ſays he: *wid a Maſon, and at* Eaſter *when my Maſter went abroad, he left myſhelf and anodder Printice to make a Paar of Peers for a Gaat in* New Abby *in the County of* Kildare, *juſt hard by the old Building: Both of us had a mind to maak as good a Work while my Maſter would be from us, and better, nor af he'd ſtay wid us himſhelf; and I went wid myſhelf alone, wid a Crow in my Hand, to get ſome good Stones out of the old Walls that would be fitting for us, tho' it was* Eaſter Monday *and the Peoples all at Maſs: I ſaw one Plaas, about ſo big as a Door, ſtopped up wid the Sort of Stones I wanted, and ſo I fell to Work, ſtriving to get 'em out, and taak 'em along wid me to my Comrade; but before I got the haaf of 'em out, I found there was Steps in before me, going down like Stairs, and I went in to ſee what ſort of a Plaas there was there; and where ſhould the Steps be after bringing myſhelf to, but into a dark Room, I believe it is a Waut you call it; and what ſhould I find there but a Parſhil of Sheſts, and I thought they were Coffins full of Bones, but when I ſtruck my Crow againſt one of 'em, I found it's Iron they were made of; and upon that I wint out and ſtopped the Hole up agin, for fear any Body would find it, and go in before Night. When it was dark, my*

ſhelf

self and my Comrade along wid me, wint in there wid a Candle and a dark Lanthorn, and what should we find in the Shests whin we broke 'em open wid the Crow, but Bars like dis pulling out his Ingot) *piled a top of one anoder a Yard high, and fait I believe it is Gold,* Dar a nagh agus dar a negh, *look at it. There was anoder Sheft full of Candlesticks of the saam Sort of dis, and more of 'em full of Crosses, Chalices, Rings and fine shining Stones; my Comrade has one of 'em, and a Gintleman says it is a Carbuncle; do you know what Sort's dat? But what would you have of it? We took 'em all out of dat, and buried them in anoder Plaas, till we got Time to look 'em all over, for fear of the Lord of the Mannor, if he hears of it, he'll come and taak it from us. You must not tell any Body, only if you have any Friend would give us a little Monies, he should have a great Bargain, for my shelf does not know the Wort of such Sort, and may be too, af I'll take 'em to the Goldsmiths in* Dublin, *he'll shallenge us wid 'em, and, Fait, may be we'd get nothing for 'em, but go to Jaal after: Af you have any Friend that's an bouest Man, we would rather let him have a Bargain for your Sake than give it to a Stranger; there's a Crown among it too, which they say was belong to the King of* Scotland.

The Farmer, hearing the Fellow talk so simply, verily imagined that he was a meer Ignoramus, and thought all that he told him was as true as the Hearth money; however, he kept his Counsel as far as proper, and desired *Mânus* to have his Treasure in Readiness, and not to shew it to any Body for fear of losing it, till he got an Opportunity of acquainting some of his Friends, who,

who, he was ſure, had a good deal of Money lying by, and would purchaſe the Whole. *Manus*'s ſole Intention was to make himſelf ſeem as fooliſh as poſſible, thereby to make his Bait the more taking; yet he did not confine himſelf to hold the Secret from all others, for he told the aforeſaid Story to as many as he thought he could make proper Fools of, to further his Deſigns, and behaved as much like a Fool as poſſible, that no Suſpicion of Deceit might thereby ariſe; for which Reaſon I ſhall give him the Title of the *Iriſh Fool*, let others call him what they pleaſe. By this Artifice the Story was whiſpered about very privately from Hand to Hand, among ſuch People as were ſuppoſed to have Money, who were moſtly ſo intent upon engroſſing the Treaſure every one to himſelf, that for fear of being prevented, they even would not give their Wives an Item of it.

At length, People that had Money came privately from all Parts to ſeek *Manus* in Hopes of making their Fortunes, but in Fact it was only to loſe them. The firſt that he made a perfect Maſter of the Secret, was an Inn-keeper from the County of *Kilkenny*, who had brought a pretty Handful of Money with him, and a Portmanteau, in order to purchaſe a large Quantity of the Gold; but *Manus*, as great a Fool as he pretended to be, was reſolved not to be caught in any Trap, and abſolutely refuſed to ſell any of his Ware under that Denomination, for fear of bringing himſelf into Trouble, and gave ſuch ſufficient Reaſons for ſo doing, that the Purchaſer ſeemed to have no Miſtruſt of a Bite. Says he, *I don't ſell you my Ngits for Gold, that would be the Way to be found out by the Lord of the Manor.*

who has the first Pretinshon to every Sort of the Kind that's found in his Ground any way, and to be sure he'd have the Gold above any Thing else: I'll tell you what I'll do wid you, give me so much Monies as will buy tin good Cows to maintain myself, and I'll give you so much of the Sort I found in the Old Abby as ever you can carry away wid you in that Leathern Bag behind you; but you must give me your Oat first that you won't open it till you get home, nor tell any Body how much Gold you have, nor how you got it; and dis is some of the Sort I found, (laying his Ingot on a Brick, and pointing to it with his Finger) *now how much Monies will you give me and I'll fill your Bag?* The Bargain was agreed to, and the Purchaser sworn to Secrecy; then *Mânus* led him in the Night to a convenient Field for his Purpose, pretending a great deal of Fear, lest any one should see or hear them, and having blindfolded him, he took the Portmanteau a little further, where he filled it with Pieces of Bricks, Stones and Hay, and when he had locked it he put the Key in his Pocket, and returned with the Load. The Inn keeper was overjoyed at his Bargain, and having paid *Mânus* about 40*l.* Earnest Money, he put the Load up behind him and rode home Post haste, promising to pay the Remainder on the Delivery of the Key, which the Goldfinder was to give him in two Days after at his own House, where he was to meet him, and take an Account of the Ware: But the Inn-keeper waited two Days three times told before *Mânus* appeared with the Key, and might have waited till Doom's-day, only his Impatience prompted him to be fingering the Gold; upon which he ripped open the Portmanteau, and finding

finding how confoundedly he was out witted, he fell ſick of a ſplenetic Fever, which had like to have coſt him his Life: However, he was ſo much aſhamed of his Bargain, that he could not tell how to divulge the Secret for ſome Months after.

The Rumour of his finding ſuch immenſe Treaſure was ſpread abroad with ſuch Artifice, that hundreds were apprized of it, yet every Man that had Money, and heard it, imagined himſelf firſt in the Baby-houſe, and ſtrove eagerly to make his Market before others knew any thing of the Affair. I heard of a very reſponſible Merchant's Son in the —— *County*, that had juſt received a conſiderable Fortune with his Wife, who, upon having Notice thereof, made Preparations for diſpoſing of all his Effects, in order to purchaſe the whole Treaſure (Crown, Jewels and all) and to carry them to *France*, about the Time the preſent *French* King was married, expecting to make a Million of Money by the Bargain, and to be able at his Return to purchaſe the whole Country before him; but the gay Man, his Father, being a Man of better Experience in the World, ſuſpected ſome Deceit, and (tho' with Difficulty) diſſuaded his Son from engaging in ſo hazardous a Project.

Mânus had ſuch good Fortune by his Schemes, that in a little Time he was able to make a new Ingot of real Gold, which weighed about twelve Ounces, in the Shape of a ſmall Bar, and this he carried about for a Decoy: Beſides, he was ſupplied, by one of his Accomplices, from *Dublin*, with Braſs Bars of the ſame Size and Form, gilded or coloured over, ſo that any Perſon, not well

ſkilled in Metals might be eaſily deceived, and not know one from the other. He has likewiſe the Luck to pick up an Acquaintance with one *Andrew Farrel*, an ill inclined young Fellow, whoſe uſual Employment was to carry Meat from the Butchers in *Dublin* to Gentlemen in the Country: He preſently found that this Fellow would be very fit for his Purpoſe, in as much as he was intimate with ſeveral People of good Credit in *Dublin*, and ſo he let him into the Secret. This *Farrel* told his Story concerning the Treaſure with ſuch a ſeeming Probability, that Numbers entertained him, and treated him with abundance of Courteſy, in order to get him to introduce them to *Mânus*; however, he always enjoined them to Secrecy, ſtill pretending the greateſt Friendſhip imaginable to thoſe he told it to, by which Means he drew Numbers in Search of the Gold. 'Tis really a Wonder, that among ſo many as came from all Parts in queſt of this Treaſure, that ſome of them did not blab out to one another what their Buſineſs was; but the Myſtery lay here, thoſe that were in purſuit kept Counſel of Neceſſity, and ſuch as were bit were under ſuch Obligations, or ſo much aſhamed of their Bargains, that they could not tell how to diſcover or expoſe their Weakneſs.

Their moſt uſual Way of impoſing on Cuſtomers was this; after the Buyers had been properly informed of the Treaſure, and Manner of finding it, and ſo wrought up into a firm Belief of the Certainty thereof, without ſhewing any Tokens of Miſtruſt, then *Mânus* began to expoſe the Gold Bar, which he called Braſs, as a Sample of his Treaſure, always prompting his Chapmen to try it, letting them call it what they pleaſed.

pleaſed. When they had fully ſatisfied themſelves concerning the Value of the Metal, a Bargain was commonly concluded upon; in the mean While *Mânus* always took Care, by one Means or other, to exchange the Gold Bar for another of Braſs, of which Sort he would furniſh his Cuſtomers with as many as were proper; then, as it was cuſtomary with him, he demanded either the Money or ſufficient Earneſt, which being laid down on one Side of the Table, and the Ngits, as he called them, on the other, *Now*, ſays he, *here is my Ware, it is Braſs I call it, and will ſold it to you for Braſs, and nothing elſe, but your ſhelf knows the Sort beſt, I hope you'll have good Luck wid it; af you don't like it, leave it wid my ſhelf, here is your Monies, taak your Shoice, I'll be bound to get more; but af you keep my Ngits you muſt buy it for Braſs, and call it Braſs; and you ſhall give me your Oat you will never ſay you bought Gold, nor tell what you give for my Ngits, for fear the Lord of the Mannor would come and taak it all wid himſelf.* He frequently appeared to be in Liquor, and by theſe kind of Speeches, which ſeemed to proceed from perfect Ignorance, his Cuſtomers only became ten times more earneſt than before, making no Scruple to give an Oath of Secrecy; which being done, they ſeldom made any Delay till they got home with the Treaſure. But as particular Inſtances may be more ſatisfactory, I ſhall relate two or three, to render him in more plain Colours.

In the Beginning of his Proſperity, in Company with the ſaid *Ferral*, he took a Jaunt down to *Dublin*, with the Ingot of real Gold in his Pocket, and ſeveral Gits of Braſs as like it as could poſſibly

be made. In the Habit of a mean Country Farmer he went to an eminent Banker in *Castle-street*, and finding him alone he drew out his Ingot, and began to make his Condition and Case known in the most moving and pathetic Manner. Says he, *God bless your Worship, Sir, every Body knows you have the best Skill in the Sort of dis of any Man in* Dublin (shewing his Ingot in Paper) *because you deal so much in the Monies; I believe it is the Sort they make the Guineas of. Well,* says the Banker, *what would you have me do with it? Why, God bless your Worship, Sir, my Landlord is hard upon me for the Rint, and he says he'll drive my Cattles away from me af I don't pay him next* Munday: *My Father and my Father's Father, and his Father before him had this Piece in the Family, and there's no Luck nor Grace wou'd ever stay in the same Plaas wid me af I'd sell it, bnt for all that* (dropping some Tears) *I must borrow some Monies upon it or my Family will be undone; God bless you, Sir, you know the Wort of dis Sort; strive to relieve me, and I'll pray for you ever.* Upon this the Banker took Pity on him, yet not willing to depend entirely on his own Judgment, he sent the Ingot out to his Goldsmith to be tried, who sent him Word back that it was good Gold. The Banker then would have been very willing to have purchased it at a moderate Price, but the other refused to sell; and not only so, but was for borrowing more upon it, and at longer Time than the Banker approved of: So *Manus* took the Ingot, lapped it up in the same Paper, and went out in Pretence of seeking Redress from some Body else upon the same Security; but he had not gone many Steps from

from the Door before he took an Opportunity of putting a Git of Braſs in the Place of the Ingot, and returned with it ſo lapped up to the Banker again. Says he, (giving a Sigh with a ſorrowful Countenance, wringing his Hands, and dropping a few Tears) *I muſt ſell dis, or borrow ſome Monies upon it, to ſtop my Cattles; I believe you will give me ſo much as any Body for it, and af I don't releaſe it againſt* Chriſtmas-day, *I won't aſk it any more.* The Banker then told him out what he offered before, and a Guinea over, thinking him a ſimple, ignorant Fellow, and then laid his Bargain up in a Drawer, without examining it, thinking that it was worth above fifteen Pounds more at leaſt. Some Time after *Chriſtmas* the Banker had ſome Company at Dinner with him, to whom he related after what Manner he had bought a great Bargain of Gold from a ſilly Countryman. They were all deſirous of ſeeing it, and when one of the Gentlemen viewed it, he ſaid it was not Gold. upon which the Banker held him a Bottle of Wine to the contrary, and had it tried over again; but to his Mortification was obliged to yield the Wager loſt, which put him entirely out of Humour, tho' it proved very good Diverſion to the reſt of the Company, to ſee a Banker outwitted by a Fool, who never intended to pay him another Viſit.

When he and his Man *Andrew* had pretty well ſeduced and defrauded a great Number of the *Dubliners* out of their Money, for Gits of Braſs inſtead of Gold, they grew enraged againſt him, and began to dog *Andrew* to his Lodgings, and to the Country, thinking to take him before a Juſtice; but he obſerving it, gave them the Slip, and

and posted away to his Master, who had retired to the Wood of *Allen*, where he usually spent the most of his Time. As soon as *Mânus* understood that People endeavoured to take him, says he, *Dar a nagh agus dar a negh*, we will go to *Connaught*: And their Effects being easily carried, and Affairs settled, after drinking a Belly full of Brandy, their common Liquor, they began their Journey, not in the direct Road, but thro' the *Queen's County*, where *Mânus* was obliged to make a longer Stay than he expected, occasioned by a Misfortune that befel him. It happened, that while he passed thro' this last County a Man of some Figure purchased some of his Ngits of Brass, for which he paid *Mânus* a pretty round Sum of Money; in a few Days after, the Gentleman exposed his Bargain to a Goldsmith in *Dublin*, with a Design of converting part of it into Plate for his Family, and to make Money of the rest; but to his Sorrow, being thoroughly made sensible of the Fraud, he posted home, and upon Search had the good Fortune of seizing *Mânus*, whom he got committed to *Maryborough* Gaol, where he remained under Confinement till the next Assize: At length his Trial came on, and a vigorous Prosecution was made against him; and to be sure the Jury could have thought no better of him than he deserved, only that when he was asked, what he had to say for himself, he asked his Prosecutor several crooked Questions, till he obliged him to acknowledge, that *Manus* told him, at the Time they made the Bargain, that his Ware was Brass, and that he sold it for Brass, and no other. *What would you have din? And is not it Brass? Shure that's no Sheat, for a Man to sell his Guts by the right*

right Name; I will leave it to my Lord Judge, and the Gentlemin of the Jury. In ſhort, he filled the Court with Surprize and Laughter, to ſee how artfully he could evade the Force of the Law, tho' in Appearance he ſeemed like a Fool; However, the Jury ſat upon it, yet they could not bring him in guilty of what he was accuſed, upon which he was acquitted.

Now he thought every Hour a Day till he got into ſome remote Place, and ſo haſted away with his Man *Andrew* to *Connaught*, where having no Acquaintance, they remained under ſome Difficulties before they got into a Way of getting a Livelihood, and ſo were under a Neceſſity of making the former Spoil of the *Dubliners* maintain them (of which they had ſtill a good Plenty left, and lived very liberally, drinking Wine and Brandy very profuſely) till at laſt *Andrew* got acquainted with one *Dominick D——tt*, a rich Farmer's Son, and a ſharp, inſinuating Youth, who was very intimate with ſeveral Genelemen in that Country. It was beneath a Man of *Emanuel's* Fortune to ſeek Cuſtomers himſelf, wherefore *Andrew* was to manage that Point, who, thinking that this young Man would make a fit Bait for his Hook, told him the whole Story concerning the finding of the Treaſure, as before related; that for fear of the Lord of the Manor, who heard of it, they fled into that Country to conceal it, and be more private: They were over a Cup of Liquor at this Time, and *Ferral*, pretending to be drunk, called the other aſide and ſpoke very privately, deſiring him to let no body know but his neareſt Friends, who, on his Account only, ſhould get good Bargains.

Young

Young *D—rr* was overjoyed at the News, and returned in to talk with *Mânus* without Delay or Suspicion. *Mânus* knowing his Inclination, pull-ed out his Ingot of Gold, and swore the young Man to Secrecy, who was charmed with the Beauties of the Metal; and being very desirous that his Friends should make their Fortunes, he brought his Uncle to *Mânus*, who told him his usual Story (like an ignorant Fellow, as he pretended to be) with great Artifice; and having charged him pretty high with Liquor, he got all the Man's Money, and sent him home with Gits in lieu of it; but in some Days having discovered the Fraud he complained to *Dominick*'s Father, and poor *Dominick* was turned out of Doors for his Pains. This was what *Mânus* wanted in his Heart, and as soon as he heard thereof he returned to *Cloncumber*, a scrubby Island in the Bog of *Allen*, surrounded with Rivers and Quagmire: At a small Distance from the Island stands a Wood, from which to the Island there is a Passage, but then a great Part of it is commonly covered with Water, and very difficult to find; and on the Middle of the Island there is a Fort, whereon if a Man stands he may view the Country round for some Miles, and see every Body that comes near it: Here he fixed his Lodgings, so that when any that he knew not came on the Wood Side, he commonly would take to the Bog, but if on the Bog Side, to the Wood; and here he carried on his Game for a long Time, never coming out but to make his Bargains, and then only in sure Company, to such Houses as he well knew.

Andrew had given an Item to *Dominick* where they intended to go, who being turned out, as aforesaid

aforeſaid, followed them in Expectation of getting his Money returned; but *Mânus* ſhewed him ſo many Legerdemain Tricks, that he ſoon found it was but in vain to expect any ſuch Thing, and ſo, knowing he had no Buſineſs home without it, he became a diſſolute young Fellow, and joined his Forces along with his new Company.

'Tis true, he returned to *Connaught*, but then it was only for a Decoy, and to make a Prey of others. He brought a Collector with him from *Eyrecourt* to *Cloncumber*, whom *Mac Oniel* firſt ſwore to keep Secrecy, and then ſold him ſome of his Bars at a very good Rate, only with this Liberty, upon his Oath, that if any one aſked what he had bought, to ſay it was Braſs; *and*, ſays he, *Dar a nagh a dar a negh, I believe it is, for I don't know Gold.* But when the Collector found out the Cheat, he was exaſperated, and, watching his Opportunity, had *Mânus* taken up, and ſent to Gaol, and tried. *Mac Oniel* told the Judge, on his Trial, that when he was ſelling him the Braſs, he made him ſwear he would tell every one he ſpoke to about it that it was Braſs: *And what elſe ſhould I call it*, ſays he, *for it was Braſs like diſh* (producing one of the Gits) which ſet the Court into a Fit of Laughter; and *Mânus* appearing ſo ſo very ignorant in Metal, and ſo innocent in the Matter, was acquitted.

After this he removed to the Woods near *Clonbullock*, where he followed his Trade as briſk as ever, ſometimes ſending away lead Horſes with Portmanteaus, and ſometimes Cars with Cheſts loaden with Gits, or elſe Bricks, nicely lapped up in Paper; but he always took Care to keep the Keys himſelf, promiſing to meet them at ſuch a

Place,

Place, as appointed, and they not to meddle with the Treasure before he met them.

But when the Time expired his Chapmen commonly began to suspect some Fraud, and of Consequence would break open the Locks, to examine what they had got. One Fellow that had made Money of all his Effects to purchase this Treasure, upon opening his Portmanteau found nothing but Bricks carefully lapped up in Paper, which exasperated him to such a Degree that he went back armed, in pursuit of *Mac Oniel*; but *Mânus* had removed to the Island, as he always did when he mistrusted a Pursuit, where he might rest secure enough till he thought proper to appear again; his absconding in this Manner made the Fellow's Search but vain, so that he was obliged to return home with Loss and Shame.

Not long after this, a petty Farmer in the County of *Limerick*, hearing that such a Heap of Treasure was to be disposed of privately, came up with his Wife, and all the Money he could raise, in order to make his Fortune for ever. He found *Mânus* near *Rathangon*, and when he had made a very good Bargain, as he thought, and got a large Quantity of the Treasure into Possession, the *Gold-finder* shewed as much more, to tempt him; the Man having laid out all the Money he brought with him, was in no Condition to buy more then; however, he had an Itch to be at it, and began to treat about the Price, which being agreed upon, they entered into Articles, and the Man was to return home with what Treasure he had bought, leaving his Wife in Pledge with the *Gold-finder* till he brought the rest of the Money back to *Mânus*: When he got home he put up the Treasure, without

out ſhewing it to any Body, and ſold two Draught Mares he had for about thirty Pounds, with which Money he went back to *Ratbangon* in about fifteen Days; but when he came to the Alehouſe where he left them, he could find no body that he knew but his Wife, who informed him that the *Gold-finders* were gone to ſome Iſland above three Days before, and intended to ſee him no more; and, upon ſome other Words that ſhe dropped, he not only began to ſmell the Cheat, but was ſo much blinded with a Pair of Horns that ſprung out of his Forehead that Moment, and hung in his Eyes, that he ſpent a Month in groping the Way home again.

Among other wiſe Men of *Goat ham* who expected to make their Fortunes by dealing with *Manus*, there was one C——*b*——*n* near *Wexford*, a great Projector, who having received private Intelligence of this vaſt Treaſure, rode ſeveral Miles to make further Enquiry, and aſſure himſelf of the Matter; concerning which, upon his Return, he was ſo well ſatisfied, that he immediately diſpoſed of as much Effects as he could conveniently ſpare, and then gathering together what Money he had in the Houſe and owing to him, he made ready for an Expedition to the Iſland of *Allen*. It was about *Michaelmas* (as *Manus* ſays) that this Gentleman ſet out from his Houſe, on a ſtout Gelding, equipped like a Man of Honour, with a Silver hilted Sword, a new Suit of Cloaths, a fine Hat and Wig, and ſixty Pounds in his Pocket, with which he poſted directly to *Monaſtereavan*, attended only by a Servant: When he came to his Inn he made all the private Enquiry poſſible for the Iſland of *Allen*, and ſent his Ser-

vant there next Morning to find out the *Gold finder*, who returned the following Evening, with Directions for his Master to come on Foot alone, or with his Guide, to the little Cabbin on the Side of an Island on the Bog, and to bring his Money along with him, for which he might expect ten times the Value in Gold and Jewels, provided he kept the Affair secret: And the better to conduct him, *Mânus* sent one of his Men, as a Guide, to shew him the Way, and tender the usual Oath of keeping Counsel: Which being done, and their Hearts regaled with a good Breakfast and Cup of strong Liquor, they set out, and arrived at the said Cabbin about Noon, where they found no body but a Woman, upon which the Guide ordered her to bring a Bottle of Wine to the Gentleman; the Wine was accordingly produced, and our Projector being fatigued with walking, and thirsty, drank pretty freely (not suspecting there was any intoxicating Stuff, or the Juice of the Bog Gale in it) and then sat him down to rest till the Guide went for *Mânus*: C——, notwithstanding, had his Thoughts so very much employed upon the Treasure, that Sleep did not so suddenly invade his Eyes as otherwise it would have done; and when he had waited about an Hour, seemed very uneasy that neither *Mânus* came, nor any News from him; upon which the Woman went out and called to a Boy, and sent him seemingly in a great Hurry for her Master, and in a little Time a new Messenger returned, with Directions to open another Bottle and entertain the Gentleman for about an Hour, by which Time *Mânus* would certainly be there with all his Golden Treasure: Upon this our Projector seemed a little easier, and sat down

to the ſecond Bottle, which proved a little too ſtrong for him, and threw him into a profound Sleep before the Gold finder appeared: In which Condition we muſt leave him till next Day, and only gueſs at his Fortune while he ſlumbered, by the Sequel of the Story.

When he awoke, which he ſuppoſed to be about eight the following Morning, he was greatly ſurprized to find himſelf alone in an empty Houſe; but what moſt increaſed his Aſtoniſhment was to find himſelf totally deprived of his Money, his Sword his Watch, his Hat, Wig, Silver Buckles, Handkerchief and Pocket-book: However, up he got, walked about, and call'd, and cry'd, and ſhouted, and curs'd, and kick'd and, danced with Vexation, round the Houſe, and round the Houſe, like a Madman, till he made himſelf ſo weary that he was forced to leave off: No body was to be heard of, no body to be ſeen any where near him but two little Boys in a Potatoe Garden, who would ſpeak no *Engliſh*, and all that he could underſtand from them in *Iriſh* was, that no body lived in the Cabbin that they knew of; ſo my Gentleman growing very hungry was obliged to walk back to his Inn (above five Miles) in the ſame Money-leſs Condition, where he ſold his Servant's Horſe, to defray his Expences and buy a new Hat and Wig, and then returned home, almoſt as poor as *Whittington* was before he ſent his Cat to the *Indies*.

The laſt Story that I ſhall be pr[illegible]e in, is of a certain Gentleman well ſkille[illegible]Metal, a ſharp Man, and one that was reſolved not to be impoſed on, as he had heard ſome others had been: He was introduced to *Manus* by one of his

young Men before mentioned, and after a good deal of Discourse over the Liquor, he let him know that he would buy no Metal but such as he would first try with something he had in his Pocket, pulling out a Bottle of Aquafortis. *Mânus*, seeing him so curious, pulled out his Ingot of Gold, and pretending to be drunk, says he, *Try dish, for I tink it is Gold, dar a nagh agus dar a negh*, which was his usual Expression; upon this the Gentleman tried the Bar, which he found was good Gold, and laid the Bottle on the Table, expecting to see more in a little Time: *Mânus* got up, as if he was going for it, but staggering about the Room like one in Liquor, he watched his Opportunity, and getting hold of the Bottle, *Arra*, says he, *what Sort is dish?* and as he was shaking it a Drop or two fell on his Fingers and smoaked; then seeming to be terribly affrighted, he cries out, as if in great Pain, *O mo vear, O mo vear*, and at the same Time threw the Bottle against the Wall and broke it. Now farewel Aquafortis. The Gentleman taking this for no other than the Effects of Drunkenness and Ignorance, said nothing at all about the Bottle, but laughed at the Fellow for a Bit of Game: However, he took Care to ask him for the rest of the Bars; then *Mânus* told him, that he had borrowed some Money of a Priest hard by, with whom he had left [illegible] of the Bars in Pledge, and desired the Gentleman to lend him as much Money as would re[illegible]em; to which he consented, provided that [illegible]d his Man should go with him to the Priest's [illegible]use: *Manus* assented very readily, and waiting till it was dark, he took the Money and put it along with the Bar in his Pocket: He

was

was ſo drunk, as he pretended, that he could not ride, but he went on Foot along with the Gentleman and his Man, who rid, till he came to a River by the Side of a Bog, which, he ſaid, was near the Prieſt's Houſe: There was a Foot ſtick over the River, and a Place a little above it like a Ford, thro' which he deſired them to ride and he would meet them on the further Side; upon which they went in eaſily enough, but before they got to the Middle the Horſes ſtuck faſt in the Mire, and threw the Riders into the Water, while *Manus* was making his Eſcape with the Money, who left them and their Horſes in the Water, to ſhift for themſelves as well as they could, in a cold Winter's Night.

He play'd an hundred Tricks beſides theſe, of which I have yet received no exact Account; but being advertiſed in the publick Papers in the Year 1733, he was much diſappointed, and his Schemes broken thro': He kept about *Clonbullock*, *&c.* ſending out his Gang to play at ſmall Games now and then, with Rings, Buttons, *&c.*

But the Methods they now chiefly take to ſupport themſelves is, by cheating in Dealing. I'm told they have Places, or Schools, in *Dublin* and elſewhere, for inſtructing their Pupils in the Art of Diſſimulation, where they learn to buy and ſell upon Truſt, and ſo forth, and he is accounted the chiefeſt among them that can deceive the moſt artfully, under the greateſt Shew of Honeſty and Simplicity. One of their Gang, as I am credibly informed, lives near *Ke—v—n ſtreet*, and by his great Art in appearing to be a ſimple, honeſt Man, has bought above an hundred Horſes in three Years time, for which he never paid a

fourth Part Value. There are Jockeys that attend *Smithfield*, who, whenever they find a Horse in the Hands of a Person unacquainted with their Artifices, come up and tell the Seller they can help him to a good Chap, an honest Man (they call him too) that lives at some Distance; here the Horse is hurried to their Friend, who comes out (perhaps as demure as a Priest in a Pulpit) and says, *Sure enough I did want a Horse some Time ago, but now I can't well spare the Money*: However, he appears like Somebody, and if the Seller does not greatly want Money, 'tis an hundred to one but he gets a Guinea or a Moidore in Hand and a Promissory Note for the Remainder. Well done *Sim—n*, see *Ch——y* well, and never fear *F——ll——m* going into the Louse-house. But I hope his Grace may live to be informed of the Matter some Time or other.

Some of their Gang introduce themselves among Pedlers, either to corrupt them, or defraud those they deal with: At first they seem to deal honestly, and at length take up a little Goods on Tick, for which they pay pretty punctually, till they think they have hooked sufficient, and then they bid a long Adieu to that Quarter. Indeed, their Artifices are so various, and their Knavery so great, that all Dealers and Shopkeepers had need to be aware of them.

For a further Account of these Pedlers, see the following Letter.

A Letter

A Letter to Mr. John C-ſ----v; *on his getting a new Edition of the* Iriſh R------ *printed.*

Dear Jack,

AS you have been the Means of publiſhing the Lives of ſo many notorious *Ruffers* and *Rum-pads*, I beg you'll not omit that of *Quee Harry D-raghan*, the remarkable Napper of *Ulſter*, which I ſhall give you in ſhort, as follows.

This ſame *Quee Harry* was introduced into the World at *Donaghadee* in the County of *Down*, of poor Parents, who perhaps might be honeſt enough too, with good looking after; but 'tis an old Saying, *Many an honeſt Man's Son may live to make free with the Gallows*, which this ſame Chap ſtruggles hard for.

When he was ten Years old his Parents put him to School, but he ſoon learned to miche, and ſpent his Time playing Crig and Commons among the Cow-boys every Day till School broke up, and then returned home as tho' he had been at his Book; but in a little Time his Father was undeceived, and then uſed rigorous Means, which proved to no purpoſe: Thus finding he could do no Good with his Son that Way, he hired him to one *Cotts*, a neighbouring Farmer, to herd his Cows during the Summer Half-year, for which he was to get ſix Shillings and three Meals a Day, the uſual Hire in that Country. *Harry* ſeemed very well pleaſed with his new exchange of Diet, and appeared ſatisfied in his Service; but an odd Adventure ſoon happened: They had a Neigh-

bour, one *Woolſon*, who was at Variance with *Cotts*, and every now and then, whenever any of their Cattle treſpaſſed either on one or the other, to be ſure to Pound they went; upon which Account the Maſters had each given their Herds a particular Charge to take care of the Cattle: However, *Cotts* promiſed *Harry* a Penny for every Head of *Woolſon*'s he could find on his Ground, and *Harry* was reſolved to have them in ſome Way or other: His Brother Cow-boy was ſo watchful that he could get no Opportunity of driving them unknown to him; ſo he went one Day, and (having left his Maſter *Cotts*'s Cattle ſecure, at a Diſtance from the Corn) he tells the other Cow-boy, that he knew where the beſt Common (or Hurling-ſtick) in the whole Country grew, and would give it to him if he would bring a Knife to cut it; upon which the Boy ran to a Houſe at ſome Diſtance for one, and in the mean Time *Harry* drove twelve of *Woolſon*'s Cows and a Bull into his Maſter's Corn, and then ran and told his Maſter they had broke in, demanding thirteen Pence: But the Maſter was in ſuch a Hurry that he took no more Notice of *Harry* at that Time, but calling for a parcel of Boys and Girls he had on a Turf-bog, he went with them to drive the Cattle to pound, ſome carrying Slanes or Spades, and others Pitchforks and Clubs. In the mean While the other Cow-boy returned, and miſſing his Cattle found he was deceived, and ſo ran to his Maſter *Woolſon*, and told him the Truth: *Woolſon*, enraged at the News, called his Workmen and Servants together, and went to reſcue the Cattle. Both Parties met in the Field of Oats together, where a bloody Battle was

fought,

fought, and many wounded on both Sides; but the Cattle were all the While rolling a good Under Jaw among the Corn, and trampling it under Foot, till an old Woman came and drove them out: At length *Woolſon* happened to ſtrike *Cotts* in the Eye with a Switch that had a ſmall Spike in its End, which put the Eye out, and then, the Victory inclining to *Woolſon*'s Side, the Battle ceaſed, and he returned home with his Cattle, over-joyed at his Succeſs. All this While *Quee, Harry* was laughing in his Sleeve at the Miſchief; but his Maſter ſent for a Doctor, and then went to Law with *Woolſon*, who defended the Suit ſo rigorouſly, that in the End they were both beggar'd; and thus theſe two wrangling Neighbours got LAWFUL Satisfaction.

At *Holland-tide*, however, *Harry* received his ſix Shillings Wages, and having got a little more from his Father, he went and bought Cloth for a Coat at a Fair; where, obſerving that ſome of the Pedlers received Money pretty faſt at their Standings, he took a great Fancy to that Calling; but finding an Opportunity, when the Pedlers were buſy, he made (or ſtole) a Pair of Steel Trumps, and a While after ſome Knives and Whiſtles, &c. but by continued Practice he has ſince learned to play upon the Trump, or *Jews* Harp to Admiration.

When he had got his Coat made, he took his little Brother and gave him a Whiſtle, and then taking him about ſix Miles off, he hired him to a Farmer, and got a Penny Earneſt, (which is uſually given in this Country) and then he went to another Farmer, and did the like; and ſo from one to another, travelling about for eight or ten

Days, till he had got about eighty Pence, or six Shillings and eight Pence in Earnest Money, to begin the World with; then he sent his Brother home to his Father again, after rubbing him down a little with an Oak Towel, for only asking him for some of the Earnest Money.

The next Adventure *Quee Harry* undertook was to observe how the Pedlers managed their Business at the Fair of *Belfast*, which he learned so well in one Day or two (tho' an illiterate Fellow) that he went to a Merchant and called for Goods, to the Value of six Shillings and eleven Pence, with as much Judgment as tho' he had been bred to the Calling; but wanting a few Pence of the whole Value, the Merchant gave him Credit for the Remainder, and off went *Harry* to raise the Wind in the Country, full mounted with a Load of Tapes, Garters, Laces, Needles, Pins, *&c.* which he carried in a Bag that he had made from his Mother.

Now *Harry* thought himself as well equipp'd as Don *Quixot* upon his first Adventure, tho' he found no Opportunity of making any Thing considerable till he went to the Fair of *Legacorry*, where he met with an expert Tinker, of whom thinking he might borrow some farther Knowledge in the Art of Prigging, he joined Company with him, and they travelled the Country together at half Snacks. *Harry* agreed to make all the old Pewter, Brass, or other Metal whatsoever that he possibly could find in his Way, and the Tinker was to comb them up again into Spoons, Sleeve Buttons, and such like Stuff, which they sold up and down, where-ever they could find the

the People Fool enough to buy them, and ſometimes they ſold them for Silver.

Harry wanted but little Inſtructions, for Theft and Knavery were rivetted in his Nature, and in the firſt Houſe that he came to he ſhew'd an Inſtance of it, for ſeeing a few Pewter Spoons on a Dreſſer, where ſome Flies were very buſy about a little Milk that had been ſpilled, he cries out to the Woman, *A pox take theſe Flees*, co hy, *what are they geud for?* ſo taking off his Hat, he clapped it down, as if it were to catch the Flies, but in the mean time he cunningly conveyed away the Spoons, with a *Dee! reev au theſe Flees!* co hy; which the Tinker obſerving, was ſo greatly pleaſed with his Comrade's Artifice, that he taught him the canting Speech, and got him a Box inſtead of his Bag, and then made him a Mould for caſting or imitating of *Clemen*'s Buttons (a famous Maker of Silver Buttons in *London*.)

This made *Quee Harry* as proud as a Cock Maggot on the South-ſide of a Sir-reverence in the hot Sun, while he was projecting a Scheme for making half the old Spoons and Candleſticks between *Drogheda* and *Derry*; and upon the Strength of it he invited his Maſter to the Fair of *Dundalk*, to ſeal their Agreement with *Rum Booz*, with which they both made ſo free as to ſpend moſt of their Stock upon it, and at length grew as mad with drinking as the Taylor was when he jump'd down the Chimney with his Gooſe in his Hand, and play'd Foot ball with the Cabbage in the Pot, till he broke all the Glaſs in the Windows, and made a Hole in one of them big enough to throw the Houſe thro' it.

Upon

Upon this, the Portrieve having Information of their Behaviour, ordered them both to Custody where they were to remain till they could get a Character of themselves and pay the Damages done, but by the Intercession of their Landlord they were discharged a Day or two after the Fair, and for his Services done them they spent all they had left in his House, to a meer Trifle.

Thus our counterfeit Dealers became Beggars for the first Time upon their new Projects; but they did not long remain in this Condition; for as they were travelling the Road with their empty Boxes, a new Thought seized *Harry*'s Brains, upon which he enquired of the Tinker how far it was to the next Boozing Ken, who told him there was one about half a Mile before them: Then *Quee Harry* gathered up some Stones and filled his Box, swearing he would soon be revenged for their late Misfortunes; and having consulted with the Tinker how to cheat the Landlord and manage the Fraud, up they marched to the Alehouse, and saluting the Man of the House (who met them at the Door, with a *Gentlemen, what's your Will, Sirs?*) they called for a Mug of Ale, and desired the Landlord to take particular Care of the Box, which by its great Weight he took to be very valuable, and the Owner very rich; and so thinking to make a Hand of them, he went to his Wife and ordered her to be very attentive to the Gentlemen, and prepare whatever they called for with Readiness: which Orders she chearfully obeyed, and got 'em some Victuals, in order to allure them to tarry all Night.

This

This pleaſed *Harry* ſo well that he called for a Bowl of Punch, and drank his Hoſt's Health, to the Tune of eight or nine Shillings, till it was too late to move that Night; ſo after having perſuaded his Landlord to lay up his Box in the Cellar, as the ſafeſt part of the Houſe, they went to Bed and ſlept till Morning; then getting up they called for two or three Drams, to treat their Landlady for her Civility: But *Harry* having previouſly inſtructed the Tinker how to counterfeit their Deſigns, and what to ſay upon his Return, the Tinker went out, as tho' to a Gentleman's Houſe near hand, and when he came back ſaid, he had never wrought harder for the Time in his Life, for he had bottomed three Tea-kettles and ſome Coppers, to the Value of ten Shillings, in about three Hours, but the Gentleman, not having leſs than a Forty Shilling Piece, deſired him to go and get Change, or call another Time; ſo *Harry* drew out a few Halfpence, (all he had left at *Dundalk*) ſaying, he had not a Crown in Silver; upon which he borrows two Crowns from the Landlord, which he readily lent, ſuppoſing he had a ſure Pledge in the Box, and that they would ſettle ſuddenly: Then ſays the Tinker to *Harry*, the Gentleman has a parcel of Lace to ſell; I care not, ſays the other, if he has forty Pounds Worth, I'm his Chap; ſo they called for more Drink, as Travellers are often dry, and after wheedling the Landlord to lend them half a Guinea more upon the ſtrength of the Box full of Stones, they beſpoke a Dinner to be ready in two Hours, and went off, after bilking the Houſe of near two Guineas, pretending to go to the Gentleman's Houſe, but never returned more.

more. Who paid for the Dinner I must leave the Reader to guess.

However, being somewhat afraid of being known, they took the most private Roads in the Country till they had got above forty Miles off, leaving neither Porringer, Spoon nor Candlestick in their Way unmade, that was not too hot or too heavy to handle, so that in three Weeks time they computed that their Plunder amounted to near five Pounds, with which, upon the Tinker's proposition, they moved towards the Mines upon *Wicklow* Mountains, expecting to make a great Hand of running down some of the Ore and coining false Money.

But in the Way an Adventure happened that diverted their Intentions a little: As they were passing thro' By-roads, and at some Distance from any Town or House of Entertainment, they grew very hungry, and could see no House near them but a Cabbin, belonging to some poor Labourer, so in they went to make a Night's Quarter's; but asking the Woman if she had any Thing to give them to eat, she replied, No; then says *Harry*, here's Two-pence, go buy us some Tobacco, and fetch in some Water to boil our Supper; which he contrived to get her out of the Way, that he might rummage the House, and in her Absence espying two Flitches of Bacon, that belonged to the Landlord, hanging up to dry, *Harry* got the Tinker to lift him up, till he cut off, with his long Knife or Cuttoe, about three Pounds, and afterwards daubed it with Soot, so that the place where it was cut from was not perceived. When the Woman returned, the pot of Water was put down, and the Bacon

dressed,

dreſſed, of which the Tinker and *Harry* made a hearty Supper, without once aſking the poor Man of the Houſe or his Wife to taſte a Bit: Thus the Villains rewarded them for their Civility.

In a few Days after the Landlord ſent for his Bacon, and miſſing a piece of one of the Flitches he grew very angry with the Tenant and his Wife, who knowing their own Innocence, at laſt recollected that none but *Harry* and the Tinker got it: And it happened, that while they were about the Mines, *Harry* went to pay a Viſit to the Fair of *Baltinglaſs*, where the poor Woman, happening to be alſo, eſpied him, and remembering him more perfectly by his *Clemens* Buttons, which he was ſhewing about, ſhe called out in *Iriſh*, *A Rogera, 'es thu yeit ma Bacon*; which *Harry* obſerving, made him quit the Fair with more Expedition than he went to it, for fear of being apprehended.

From this place our two Chaps made their Way to the County of *Limerick*, and coming by a little Town called *Carrickglis*, *Harry* fell deeply in Love with a pretty young Woman, (by all Reports at that Time a Virgin, tho' ſhe had afterwards learned to plant Horns upon his Forehead as often as ſhe paſſed thro' a Town or Village) but, as ingenious as *Harry* was, and expert in all other Affairs, he was a long Time before he could bring her to his Bow, having uſed all his Artifice upon her in vain; becauſe he ſpoke ſuch broad *Scotch* that ſhe took him for a Heretick, and would believe nothing elſe; However, *Harry* (reſolving to have her at any rate) goes to the Prieſt, and having, for a kind of Deception, mad-

made a sort of Confession, he assured him that all the *Scotch*, whether Hereticks or not, spoke in the same manner, and then pulling out eight Guineas, he desired the Priest to keep them for him till he returned from the County of *Kerry*, where he was going, and in the mean While use his Endeavours with the young Woman, in order to persuade her to think him a Christian, which the charitable deceived Priest, not doubting him, in a great measure did.

Having settled this Matter with the Confessor, *Harry* moves with his Comrade, the Tinker, to the County of *Kerry*, where having ranged about for several Days with various Success, the Tinker was at length taken up at *Tralee*, for attempting to utter a piece of his new Coin, which being discovered by a Gentleman near *Ardfert* to be bad Gold, he was taken before a Justice and committed to Gaol; but what became of him after, whether he was obliged to stretch Hemp, or traverse the Ocean, I could never learn; for tho' *Harry* promised to go for his eight Guineas, and return immediately, in order to relieve him, he was never at *Tralee* since. However, tho' he was now all alone, he was resolved to be so as short a While as he could; so he posts away to the aforesaid Priest, and, after making a second sham Confession, received his Money again: He offered his Confessor a Treat, and then began to enquire how the young Woman's pulse beat, which, by the Priest's Intercession, appearing a little more favourable, the Match was at length with much persuasion concluded, and *Quoth Harry* was coupled in the Field of Matrimony to Miss *Biddy*; who being exceeding tractable, he taught

her

her in one Month to be as expert at his Game as himſelf, ſo that nothing went amiſs with them; which made him often ſay, Tho' he had left a good Tinker, he had found a good Stroller, one well known to all the travelling Dealers in the Kingdom, and as kind to her Friend as you pleaſe; and if any Thing leads *Harry* to Heaven he may thank her for it, *provided* he ſtill keeps in the ſame Temper of the Man with the big Thumb.

She was certainly an acute Wench, and whether *Harry* was with her or not would ſtill have ſome Game or other to herſelf; nay, if he was at the Fire caſting Spoons, ſhe would be either quilting, or coaxing the Chickens in the Garden with Crumbs of Bread, in order to nab them into her Pouch.

When *Harry* thought her ſufficiently trained, they quitted *Munſter*, and marched northward once more, taking the moſt likely Roads for their purpoſe that they could chuſe; and, in their Way, you muſt think Miſs *Biddy* was *Harry*'s beſt Friend, and nothing went wrong till ſhe fell into other Hands ſhe liked better; but having once learned to change, it ſeems it has greatly pleaſed her Fancy, becauſe ſhe imitates the Moon ever ſince to ſuch great perfection.

But to proceed with *Harry:* It happened while they were on their Journey, he went with his Pedler's Box to the Fair of *Dromore*, where he carried the Skirt of his Coat over his Goods, to keep off the ſmall Rain, (for it mizzled) and a Country *Jony*, ſeeing a great many Braſs haſted Knives and Forks in the Box, the Mouth of a Fellow would every now and then come up with

Admiration

Admiration, and aſk, *What fine Things were aw thoſe?* till at length, *Harry* thinking him troubleſome, drew out one of the Knives, and juſt as the *Mouth* was peering into the Box, he draws it acroſs his Face, (crying at the ſame Time, *Stand off the Spring of my Arm*) and cut him quite acroſs the Cheek, which bled ſo faſt that a great Number of People gathered about, and Mr. *Harry* was hurried before the Sovereign of the Fair, who having examined the poor *Mouth*, began to aſk *Harry* ſome Queſtions; and *Harry* replied, the Fellow was behind him, and he wanted to draw out one of his Knives to ſhew to a Gentleman, but it ſtuck faſt in the Sheath, but finding it wanted Force to draw it out, he pulled hard, and bid the Cheel ſtand off the Spring of his Arm, (juſt ſo) and pulling it out again, with ſeeming Difficulty, it happened to cut him this way, ſays *Harry*, at the ſame Time cutting the poor Fellow a ſecond time acroſs the Noſe; upon which the *Jony*'s Wife ſwore he was cut again; but the Juſtice taking him for a Madman he was thruſt out, and *Harry* took the Opportunity of making off.

The next Summer, Proviſions being very ſcarce in the North, and Miſs *Biddy* having left him, *Harry* moved towards *Dublin*, and making *Longford* and *Moat Granoge* in his Road, he had the Fortune to bite an eminent Man in the latter place out of a Crown, which he borrowed upon a paper of his Leaden Buttons, which he ſaid were *Clemen*'s Silver ones; then having arrived at *Thomas-ſtreet* in *Dublin*, he met with a Mort who pretended ſhe knew how to coin Money, which pleaſed him ſo well, that he treated and coaxed her

her into her kindeſt Humours; but having oblig'd him in the laſt Favours, ſhe gave him the ſlip one Morning, and took away his Money and moſt of his valuable Goods while he was aſleep, tho' not without firſt warming his Bowſprit: Thus *Quee Harry* was bilked for once, as great a Rogue as he was.

Harry was now in an ill taking, Money-leſs, and in a bad Condition for pickling: However, he made Friends ſome how or other, and got himſelf cured of the Crinkums, then, with what little he had left, he moved to the County of *Wexford*, the ſame dear Summer when Wheat was ſold for forty Shillings a Barrel and upwards. Here *Harry* was a little put to his ſhifts; but after ſome time he made uſe of his former Stratagem, by putting Stones into his Box, which ſucceeded with him pretty well for ſome Time; but at length he took it in Head to go to a rich Farmer's Houſe late in the Evening, where the People would willingly enough have ſeen the Inſide of his Box, but he ſaid it was too late, and begged Leave to lodge that Night in the Farmer's Barn, where there lay a conſiderable Heap of new threſh'd Wheat: Having obtained his Requeſt, and ſtrengthened his Gut with Belly Timber, he went to Sleep; but very early in the Morning he took an Opportunity of putting out the Stones, and ſupplying their Room with Corn, which he concealed very cunningly: When this was done, he recollected there was to be a Fair about ſeven Miles off that Day, and being in haſte to be at it, made ſeveral Excuſes to be gone, and at laſt prevailed with the Farmer himſelf to help him up with the Box on his Shoulder: The Farmer admiring

miring how he was able to travel under such a Burden (for the Wheat was heavy) asked him what he had got in his Box? To which *Harry* replied, *Nothing, Sir, but Muslins and Cambricks, and your Nab's Grannum*; which the Farmer not understanding, he said no more, and *Harry* went off to *Enniscorthy*, where he sold the Wheat for about eight Shillings, and laid out the Money upon Pedlers Goods, with which he returned next Day to the same Farmer's House, and having sold several Shillings Worth of his Goods in the House, he made Interest for some Belly Timber and a Night's Lodging in the same Barn, where he filled his Box a second Time, and had the Favour of getting the Farmer to help him up a second time with the Box; but as he now wonder'd more and more at the Weight of it, *Harry* took his Leave of that Place, lest the other should smell his *Grannum* out, and get the Thief cloathed with a Stone Doublet.

What became of *Quee Harry*, dear *Jack*, after this, till the Licence Act was made, I know not, having neither seen nor heard of him till I met him with you at the *Spread Eagle*, where you were laying a Scheme for sconcing upon *Luf*—— But the Luck was all on your Side; 'twas you that got the Guinea to pay for the Licence, and he has good Luck if ever he gets Principal or Interest again from your Hands: You have Art enough to persuade him the Licence was drowned when you fell from the Plank into the Liffee tho' Mrs. *M*—— knows very well it was melted in her Ale, and that to her Cost; for *Fardy*, the Tinker, got more from her for striving to solder the Cracks in it than all your Honesty was ever worth,

worth, and after all ſhe can't get a Pipe of Tobacco for it. But, dear *Jack*, how you'll manage to get another Licence, remains a Secret to all the World but your ſelf; I fancy, your beſt Way to get a Living now, will be to ſend a Petition to a certain noble Lord's Secretary, and inform him, that your Grandmother was Foſterer to his Groom, whoſe Intereſt you muſt ſollicit in the ſtrongeſt Terms, till you get your ſelf tranſlated into ſuch an Office as you deſerve; and, who knows but at length you may arrive to the Dignity of a Poſtilion, and have the Priviledge of riding to an Exit under one of the King's Wooden Horſes, attended by a vaſt Concourſe of Spectators. So, dear *Jack*, good Night to you.

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